FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FIGUEIREDO JUSTIFIES EMERGENCY, CALLS FOR TALKS

PY010233 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2331 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Speech to the nation by President Joao Figueiredo, delivered on 30 April; place and time not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Brazilian people:

The emergency measures which I adopted before 25 April in keeping with the Constitution were exclusively aimed at guaranteeing the free exercise of congressional rights and at maintaining public order in the Federal District. In my capacity as the defender of the Constitution, it was my duty to guarantee the freedom of expression of congressmen who were in favor of the direct balloting system, but who also believed that such a system should be adopted only after the presidential term following mine.

The march on Brasilia, which had been publicly planned, had the obvious intention of putting deputies and senators under pressure, despite the fact that the only source of their ideas should be their own consciences, and that their beliefs must develop freely, without pressure or threats.

The vote on the amendment was preceded by many rallies for which I guaranteed the free expression of ideas and political opinions. I thus gave testimony to the statement that I made to the nation that this country has never enjoyed so much freedom as under my government.

If restrictions had to be imposed as a result of the emergency measures, the objective of those measures was to protect one of the three branches of government whose freedom was being jeopardized, and to preserve public tranquillity in Brasilia. In this regard, I will mention the incidents that occurred in connection with the vote on the amendment. I am not trying to indict anyone, but to account for my deeds before the nation. I did not and I will not fail to fulfill my commitments to democracy.

The result of the vote was not, in my opinion, the end of a political event. On the contrary, it is a new beginning, which demands above all the participation of political sectors, because the decisions that must be made for overcoming the current crisis are of an essentially political nature. However, if we are to tackle our problems efficiently and rapidly, the (?ambitions) of political sectors must be done away with. Instead of their radical attitudes, contenders must cooperate with the solution of the national problems.

I am open to dialogue. I call on all political sectors to promote understanding and cooperation. An invitation to cooperation and understanding is actually implicit in the bill amending the Constitution that I submitted to the National Congress. In this proposal I went as far as I could on making concessions concerning the reduction of the presidential term.

Reconciliation and conciliation are unpostponable imperatives for the nation. The leaders of the various political groups are primarily responsible for undertaking negotiations. They are responsible for unblocking politics, for opening channels, and for safeguarding general interests, not individual interests. The fate of the entire Brazilian society is at stake. Society wants changes, beginning with a change in political style and methods. Society also wants socioeconomic changes and changes in ethical conduct. Our present crisis is centered on all these aspects of society's problems.

Politics is the driving force behind every change. In order to achieve its goals readily, politics must improve, update its procedures, and solve all those problems stemming from the development of ideas. A pluralist democracy is the best formula to resolve the issues of our time. Because it is based on dialogue, understanding, negotiations, and tolerance, a crisis in a pluralist democracy can only result from ineptness, inertia, and a conservative spirit which can delay the removal of obstacles lying in the way of the changes required by society. I believe, however, that these obstacles will not prevent those responsible Brazilian politicians from responding to my appeal, from promoting the changes the nation has been anxiously expecting, and from signing the political commitments the nation needs to remove the risks and dangers hanging over its political and socioeconomic organization.

I have confidence in the intelligence, common sense, public spirit, creative strength, the wisdom and [word indistinct] of our people. I believe in their nobleness, in their benevolence, in their fraternal (?warmth), in their dedication, in their ability to endure sacrifices, and in their generosity. As a great people and a great nation, we will be able to build our future accordingly. The future depends on our people's ability to be reasonable and on the freedom they may have to carry out those projects which are in keeping with its historical destiny.

We support the state of law. Yet we also dream of a state of justice in which all workers -- whose day we are commemorating tomorrow -- may find the protection they deserve under social liberalism, which prevails under our constitutional system.

An essential foundation of society, the participation of workers in our political structure, involves an invaluable contribution to the free play of ideas and interests, which are in turn characteristic of the open and pluralistic society in which we have the privilege to live. Participation in politics is one of the greatest values of our society. This participation will be more effective to the extent to which it contributes to promoting accord, harmony, and tranquillity; that is, to social happiness.

The appeal to understanding, reconciliation, and dialogue that I am launching to the politicians of my country, to the men and women of the opposition and of the progovernment sector, is a sincere and warm call to the entire political sector, to help me, each one in his own way, and to the extent of his own idealism, to build the social happiness that Brazilians deserve.

Deeply involved in that cause, which is the cause of Brazil, I will be at (?the door) of government house or in any other place to lead this civic crusade with all the means within my reach. Thank you very much.

TERM FOR ARGENTINE LOAN REPAYMENT EXTENDED

PY281837 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Brasilia, 27 Apr (AFP) -- The Brazilian Government has extended the deadline for Argentina to pay back a $50-million loan granted on 30 March to pay a part of overdue interest on its foreign debt for 30 days. The Brazilian loan forms part of an overall $500-million loan granted to Argentina by Brazil, the U.S. Treasury, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela. According to official Brazilian sources, the extension of the deadline, which expires on Monday, was stipulated in the loan agreement because it was believed that Argentina would not reach an agreement with the IMF before 25 May.

CNT CALLS FOR DAY OF PROTEST, NATIONAL STRIKE

Seguel Opens CNT Assembly

PY282130 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Opening a national workers assembly at the Carlos Cariola Theater this morning, National Workers Command [CNT] President Rodolfo Seguel said: We are holding this meeting in compliance with the decision adopted during the Puente Alto leaders assembly to jointly analyze the situation of workers and establish a timetable of activities. Seguel added that although the conditions for union activity are very hard, no difficulty, no matter how great it may be, will stop leaders from fulfilling their duty, which is to be in permanent contact with their rank and file.

More than 1,000 representatives are attending the assembly.

Seguel was roundly acclaimed when he said that on establishing the timetable of activities, it is necessary to stress that their main target is to recover democracy, which is the only system under which workers can effectively defend their rights.

Later in his speech, he said that nobody can ignore what the CNT has done in the political field and for the union movement as well as the fact that workers have not just protested but also submitted concrete joint proposals to solve Chile's problems.

Referring to the union movement objectives, Seguel noted the need for union organizations to plan actions more effectively to defend workers' rights. In an outstanding part of his speech, he said that workers' actions to restore democracy must be coordinated by a broad organization, and he warned that attempts to divide workers or create organizations docile to the government and to employers will crash against the maturity of workers and their leaders who see the CNT as the most representative workers organization.

Criticizing his administration, he said that the CNT needs to be in closer contact with its rank and file and incorporate other representative organizations.

Seguel said that creating the conditions for a national strike is more important than just calling one, adding that workers have the moral authority to use, as a last resource, the legal weapon of holding a national strike.

11 May National Protest Day

PY282347 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2248 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 28 Apr (EFE) -- Chilean union leaders meeting in an assembly held by the National Workers Command (CNT) have decided to hold another protest against the military regime on 11 May. Leader Rodolfo Seguel, who presided over the opposition union meeting, which was authorized by the military regime, said that the 11 May protest will be aimed at commemorating the anniversary of the first protest action held on 11 May 1983.

To Hold 1st National Strike

PY290008 Paris AFP in Spanish 2012 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Santiago, 28 Apr (AFP) -- The opposition National Workers Command (CNT) today decided to call a national strike. The CNT council will fix the date of the stoppage within (?30) days.

This national strike will be the first general strike since the establishment of the military government 10 and 1/2 years ago. The measure was adopted during an assembly held at the Cariola Theater in Santiago by more than 1,000 representatives from all over the country.

PS CHOOSES LEADERS, VOICES SUPPORT FOR AD

PY302329 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1531 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 30 Apr (EFE) -- Carlos Briones, a former minister in the Salvador Allende administration, has been chosen the new secretary general of the Chilean Socialist Party [PS]. The election took place in Santiago during a meeting, which ended last night, attended by PS leaders. The leaders of the PS, which is a member of the Democratic Alliance [AD] multiparty group, also chose lawyer Hernan Vodanovic as under secretary general; thus, as PS leaders put it, "all generations will be represented."

At the end of their meeting, the Socialist leaders, who are also known as the "Socialist bloc," reiterated their support for the AD and for its democratic and socialist principles.

'NATIONALIST UNION' CREATED; FAVORS CONSTITUTION

PY301750 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 24 Apr 84 p 7

[Excerpt] The self-styled "Nationalist Union of Chile," UNACH, has begun to operate on a national level. The UNACH, which recognizes and endorses the 1980 Constitution, is waiting for the enactment of the political party law to register and form federations with other nationalist groups. This announcement was made by top UNACH leader Dr Jorge Vargas Diaz. The other UNACH leaders are: Hernan Munita, national head of the finance department; Carolina Concha Goycolea, women's representative; Orlando Sepulveda, head of the youth department for nationalist doctrine; and German Quinteros, public relations chief.

MDP SUPPORTS MAY DAY RALLY, REPORTS THREATS

PY272113 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Former Senator Alejandro Toro, ad-interim secretary general of the Democratic Popular Movement [MDP], has stated in a public document that the MDP's national council supports the 1 May rally at O'Higgins Park.

The MDP leaders also denounced persecutions against MDP leaders at all levels, who are detained at night, harassed, and later released without any charges being filed against them. They also reported that unidentified people have threatened the families of Jaime Insunza and Lepoldo Ortega, both of whom were expelled from the country on orders of the government.

MAPUCHE INDIANS DEMONSTRATE, CLASH WITH POLICE

PY261853 Paris AFP in Spanish 1345 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] Temuco, Chile, 26 Apr (AFP) -- Mapuche Indians on Wednesday clashed in this southern Chilean city with a violence unprecedented in recent years. The policemen went into action when hundreds of Mapuche Indians marched in downtown Temuco calling for the release of three leaders of their main labor and cultural association Ad Mapu. Two of these leaders have been banished for 3 months to the isolated villages of Sierra Gorda and Baquedano, while the third has been sent to prison in Concepcion, 250 km north of Temuco.

The official report indicated that the Indian leaders were carrying out subversive activities when arrested in Arauco, an area where most of Chile's 500,000 Mapuche Indians live. Ad Mapu said the charges were groundless and explained that the leaders charged were organizing their people against government policies which curtail access to education and ownership of land which belonged to the Mapuches when the Spaniards arrived four centuries ago.

During the incidents in Temuco, 700 km south of Santiago, several policemen and demonstrators were injured and five of the latter were arrested, according to government sources.

SIX BANKS BOMBED IN VALPARAISO, VINA DEL MAR

PY271715 Paris AFP in Spanish 1339 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Valparaiso, Chile, 27 Apr (AFP) -- The police have reported that six banks in the Chilean cities of Valparaiso and Vina del Mar, neighboring cities in the country's central coastal region, have suffered heavy damage from dynamite bombs placed on the premises by unknown persons. A woman passing by one of the banks was wounded by the broken glass from one of the windows. The attack took place early this morning, and no organization has claimed responsibility.

In Valparaiso, the shock wave of the bombs also damaged the front of the offices of the General Directorate of the Navy, which is located across the street from one of the banks that was attacked.

Similar attacks, which took place on Wednesday and Thursday, also caused heavy damage to two municipal buildings in Santiago. Four women employees were wounded.

BOMB ATTACKS HIT SANTIAGO, CONCEPCION; 26 HURT

PY301610 Paris AFP in Spanish 0413 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 29 Apr (AFP) -- The self-styled Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] tonight claimed responsibility for a number of bomb attacks in Santiago. As a result of one of these attacks, 26 Metro passengers were injured. In a communique, the FPMR reported that it has launched a nationwide sabotage offensive to contribute to the Chilean people's struggle to overthrow the regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet. Previously, an unidentified woman called the media to report that the FPMR had undertaken these actions because of the upcoming 1 May celebrations.

The Carabineros and security service troops are carrying out raids in several Santiago neighborhoods, while all cars on the road after midnight are being carefully searched for explosives.

The series of over 10 attacks, which started at 2230 (0230 GMT), affected several Santiago residential areas and also a sector of Concepcion, located 530 km south of Santiago.

BRIEFS

PROMOTIONS OF CARABINEROS OFFICERS -- During a ceremony held at the Carabineros School's Officers Club at 2030 last night, the following officers were promoted: General Hector Insulza Gonzalez to inspector general and Colonels Jorge Veloso Bastias, Andres Cadiz Guinas, Alejandro Cabezas Paice, Arturo Fontaine Manriquez, and Fernando Valdivia de la Sota to the rank of general. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Apr 84 p C 3 PY]

JUSTICE MINISTER LARA BONILLA MURDERED

PA010140 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0136 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Bogota, 30 Apr (EFE) -- The Administrative Department of Security (DAS) has announced that Colombian Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla was murdered here tonight.

Further on Minister's Death

PA010214 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0140 GMT 1 May 84

[Excerpt] Drug traffickers do not intimidate me because I know that I have to fulfill my duty as a citizen and a man of good faith. I am defending a good cause, and I hope to continue the combative line I have set for myself, Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla said in mid-1983. Today he was attacked and killed as he was about to arrive at his home in northern Bogota.

He was taken to the Chayo Clinic in Bogota, where he received immediate medical attention from several pysicians. Meanwhile, his bodyguards fired at the individuals who were running away from the scene of the crime. The bodyguards reportedly killed one attacker and captured another two.

Intelligence services are now conducting a large-scale operation, encircling the entire area to capture a third person who was able to flee. The intelligence services know the direction in which he fled.

One Attacker Captured

PA010325 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0217 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Bogota -- The state intelligence services have told Super Noticias that one of the persons who fired on Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla has been captured. He has been identified as Byron Velasquez Arenas. I repeat: Byron Velasquez Arenas, one of the alleged assassins of Justice Minister Lara Bonilla has been captured.

The suspect is reportedly wounded and in serious but not critical condition, the authorities have reported.

NEW TERRORIST ACTIONS IN SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS

M-19, Army Clash in Huila

PA292323 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Bogota -- Nine people have died as a result of clashes between the Colombian Army and an M-19 [19 April Movement] column that began last night in the southern part of Huila Department.

We have learned that five guerrillas and four Army soldiers have died in the clashes, which are continuing between 9th Brigade members and an M-19 group. So far, the Army has not reported the identities of the dead guerrillas or soldiers who died during the confrontations near the border between Caqueta and Huila Departments.

According to 9th Brigade spokesmen, soldiers are continuing to fight the subversives with helicopter gunships.

Buses Burned in Bogota

PA301547 Bogota Radio Sutatenza in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Bogota -- There has been an escalation in terrorist activities in the last few hours in Bogota, where four urban transportation buses have been set on fire. Police authorities have reported that the incidents occurred at approximately 0530 at 30th Street and 1 May Avenue. At this moment the state security corps are conducting intensive operations to arrest the perpetrators of these terrorist actions.

Buses Burned in Medellin

PA301543 Bogota Radio Sutatenza in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Medellin -- A total of 11 buses have been set on fire in the last few hours in this capital by a terrorist group that set off several highly powerful bombs.

The authorities have noted that the vehicles belong to the Unsubsidized Transportation Service [Sistema de Transporte sin Subsidio, TSS]. It has been reported that the state security corps is setting up intensive operations in Antioquia Department's capital at this moment to prevent this wave of violence from affecting the citizens' safety.

Here is a report by (Jaime Calle Coneo):

[Begin recording] The losses from a terrorist attack at midnight last night have been preliminarily estimated at [figure indistinct] million pesos. According to a report issued by the authorities, a terrorist group which has not yet been identified broke into the bus terminal of (Aranjuez) and (Santa Cruz) in the city's northeast area and set fire to 11 TSS buses.

The report indicates that losses have been estimated at 16.3 million pesos. Heavy security measures have been adopted on the city's main thoroughfares to guarantee normal operations because transporters have threatened to suspend service in Medellin today in view of these incidents.

In another development, a clash between a guerrilla group and the military forces has left one noncommissioned officer dead, two soldiers wounded, and two guerrillas dead. According to the report issued by the 14th Brigade headquartered at Puerto Berrio, Corporal Gustavo Londono Arias was killed and soldiers Luis Aguirre Barreto and Alfredo Pelaez were wounded in a clash with a FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] group. Two guerrillas, who were simply identified with their aliases of Evelio and Lucho, were also killed in the clash. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW EDUCATION MINISTER -- Doris Eder de Zambrano, former governor of Valle del Cauca Department, has been sworn in as education minister. At the same time, Hugo Castro Borja, government secretary in Valle del Cauca Department, has been sworn in as acting governor until Jorge Herrera Barona, the designated governor, assumes his post in the next few days. The ceremony took place at the Narino House Protocol Office in the presence of President Belisario Betancur. [Text] [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Apr 84 PA]

GENERAL MEETS PERUVIAN COUNTERPART AT BORDER

PA271959 Paris AFP in Spanish 1459 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Quito, 27 Apr (AFP) -- Generals Garibaldo Mino and Julian Freire, commanding generals of the Ecuadoran and Peruvian Armies, respectively, met each other with an embrace at the international border bridge, separating the Ecuadoran township of Huaquillas and the Peruvian township of Aguas Verdes, which served as the location for a meeting between the two. It was stated here that problems of immigration and charges of abuses by prison authorities of the two countries were on the agenda.

The military chiefs attended the meeting accompanied by ranking Army officers in an act "that created expectation, because it had not been announced officially and did not include the participation of civilian authorities," the local Ecuadoran agency reported on Friday.

The ceremony was witnessed by some 2,500 border region inhabitants. It is believed that the meeting will promote confidence in commercial activities, which were seriously affected by an armed border confrontation in the Condor Mountain Range in January 1981.

The conversations between Mino and Freire began on Thursday in the City of Tumbes and will conclude on Friday in the Ecuadoran City of Machala.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES BORJA, FEBRES DEBATE

PA010215 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 0015 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Debate between Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, presidential candidate of the Democratic Left-People, Change and Democracy, and Leon Febres Cordero, presidential candidate of the National Reconstruction Front, with moderator Alejandro Carrion Perez, in Quito; questions posed by candidates, followed by opponent's answer and opportunity for rebuttal by the questioner -- live]

[Excerpts] [Borja] Engineer Febres Cordero, explain your political ideology to the country.

[Febres] I am a man of the center, who believes that solutions in the country lie -- and this reflects my ideology -- in the Social Christian ideology of my party. The Ecuadoran people's hunger, unemployment, and frustration will only be solved if we freeze public spending in real terms, increase production, respect the private sector that fulfills its social role of producing, and guide the government toward a healthy economy -- which is a synonym for a healthy currency -- because the Ecuadoran people will be able to eat and get a job only through a healthy economy and currency. If respecting the private sector that fulfills its social role of producing, advocating austerity in public spending, freezing public spending in real terms, increasing production, and guiding our economy toward a healthy currency represents welfare for the Ecuadoran people, that is my ideology, Dr Rodrigo Borja Cevallos.

For many years you have been asserting that you and your party are ideologically pure. Nevertheless, the Ecuadoran people have a big question regarding your ideological instability.

What are you really, Dr Borja: the true socialist who founded the Democratic Left [ID]; the socialist who now tells businessmen not to worry because you will not nationalize anything, and that you will defend them; the materialist who wrote that Catholic education coerces the youths' conscience and freedom; or the one who tells the church leaders that he will defend the Catholic Church and Catholic education?

[Borja] I am a democratic socialist and one of the founders of the ID. I am a socialist because I want to help our people and create a just society for all Ecuadoreans -- where there will be no exploiters like you, who pay meager salaries. It would be interesting to see your companies' tax reports: The general manager earns 150,000 sucres per month, while the poor workers earn 5,000 to 6,000 sucres per month. This is what we want to change, to put an end to monopolies and exploitation, so that people can no longer get rich off the Ecuadoran people's hard work. This is the real me. However, since I want to make those changes with liberty, respecting civic and public rights, I am a democratic socialist. I want changes, but with liberty. That is a quick definition.

I see that you are pursuing your dirty campaign of trying to mix religion with politics, so I will humor you. I am a Christian and have defended Christian values such as justice, defense of others' honor, and the commandment thou shalt not kill -- which you have violated through your shock groups, which have left a trail of blood in our streets.

[Febres] You say [words indistinct] socialist, reformist, freedom-loving, tridimensional, and materialist. Politically speaking, Dr Borja, you are nothing. Hence, you have become a dangerous man. You claim to be a reformist and say [former Chilean President Salvador] Allende's policy is Latin America's solution. Here are your statements to LA REVISTA NUEVA. You say you have the same goals as Marx, but differ with his methodology. Here is a book you wrote. You assert that you are a socialist, Marxist in your goals, reformist [words indistinct], and defender of the private sector. No one can understand this. Neither I nor the Ecuadoran people can understand this.

[Carrion Perez] We have concluded the first segment of this debate. Let us enter the second segment, on social affairs. I beg the debaters to use less heated language, because I am afraid we will get into a situation that is not good for the debate.

[Borja] My question is, what would your government's labor policies be?

[Febres] We will raise basic salaries as much as necessary until the economy is leveled. We will strengthen collective bargaining systems, because they are the worker's only means of defense against the abuses of capital. We will work to have an Ecuador without abuse of capital or abuse against the workers. We know about this because we have struggled, worked, guided, and helped workers throughout about this because we have struggled, worked, guided, and helped workers throughout our life -- something you have never done. You have always been surrounded by four walls, distributing booklets; and today you deny what you have always said. We will encourage the work of commissions on minimum salaries, so that the people do not suffer hunger. Later, our government will reactivate our economy to increase production, because Ecuador's problem is not the distribution of its few resources, but the participation of its vast majorities in the production sectors. We will develop its resources and social welfare through increased production. We will be able to generate national welfare only by working and producing; this is necessary to finance the Ecuadoran people's welfare in an atmosphere of order, peace, and work.

How do you plan to avoid becoming a primary factor in the unemployment and serious disruption of social peace that will occur if, to this country's disgrace, you become president of this country?

[Borja] The man who appears as a candidate himself today has completely reversed his stand. He presents himself as a friend of the workers, when in fact he has always mistreated the workers. The press has frequently reported these occurrences. There is not a group of workers or banana growers that he has not ruthlessly exploited.

Therefore, Engineer Febres Cordero will heighten political tension in the country, because he has not talked with the workers, because he has been declared public enemy No 1 of Ecuadoran workers, and because he will cause a worsening of the social conflict and will have to apply a policy of oppression in order to maintain order in the country.

[Febres] I will improve the Ecuadoran worker's welfare by giving him bread, shelter, and jobs.

Dr Borja, how will you face and resolve the terrible foreign debt and budget deficits?

[Borja] First and foremost must be the refinancing of our foreign debt to obtain more favorable maturity dates, better interest rates, and improved financial costs in general. That foreign debt has been aggressively promoted by this government, which I have opposed.

A more efficient tax collection system is indispensable. The tax evasion figures in this country are alarming. Therefore, the collection of taxes must be modernized. It is necessary to establish priorities for public spending, and there must be a system of austerity in which the people's money is not squandered, because this is immoral and constitutes administrative corruption. The people's money must not be spent on trips, automobiles, and cocktail parties for public officials. I think that this is the basic way to reduce the country's public sector deficit to a level that is acceptable in proporation to our country's GNP.

[Febres] Top ID leaders are responsible for the crisis that the country is experiencing. Your close friend (Miguel Antonio Vallejo), an adviser, financier, and ID deputy, is responsible for (?the latest) Central Bank reports, and for the intervention in the free exchange market that cost the Ecuadoran people $200 million and led to the devaluation. I have opposed excessive public spending.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT DISCLOSED -- Jose Antonio Correa, president of the Monetary Board, today said that the Ecuadoran foreign debt totals $8 billion. It is the first time that an economic authority has mentioned this total. It had been previously reported that the debt was between $6.6 and $7 billion. Correa said that the increase of 0.5 percent in foreign bank interest rates represents an additional $40 million in payments for Ecuador. According to the official, the increased interest rates have become a Sword of Damocles for the national economy. Correa also said that at yesterday's Monetary Board session, the 1984 financial plan was approved. He added that this body is studying ways to facilitate the procurement of news services for the media's benefit. [Text] [Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Apr 84 PA]

NONTRADITIONAL GOODS USED TO PAY USSR DEBT

PY271730 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 19 Apr 84 p 19

[Text] Next month Peru will start exporting nontraditional goods to the Soviet Union for a total amount of 184 million rubles (some $108 million) to partially pay its debt to that country.

This announcement was made by Gonzalo Garland, president of the Exporters Association (ADEX), during a press conference yesterday at the end of the third meeting of the Peruvian-Soviet Intergovernment Commission.

According to Garland, the exports for the aforementioned sum are provided for in an agreement signed in November 1983.

The ADEX president explained that Peru was supposed to settle its debt with the Soviet Union at a rate of $7 million per month, but was unable to meet these terms because it had to pay over $38 million that had fallen due during the 5 months after the agreement was signed.

During 1984, the Soviet Union will receive zinc concentrate products, refined lead, cotton fibers, cotton cloth, frozen fish, canned fish, frozen prawns, soup concentrates, steel saw blades, bismuth, as well as other mass consumption products.

Garland also proposed to the government that this way of paying the country's foreign debt with nontraditional goods be used also with nonsocialist creditor countries.

ADDITIONAL POLICE POSTS SET UP IN EMERGENCY ZONE

PY281503 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca today announced that 10 new police posts have been established in the emergency zone to protect the population from the terrorists, in addition to the 15 posts already reestablished and the patrolling operations which are carried out with Armed Forces personnel.

[Begin Percovich recording] I am referring to the reestablishment of police posts, in accordance with the importance of each one of the populated areas, with an adequate number of policemen, varying from 16 to 25, to give them garrisons of sufficient strength to repel any attacks. Of course, this is being done gradually and will require some time and, above all, a financial outlay.

About 15 police posts have now been reestablished in areas which the political-military command believes to be of greatest importance, and 10 new posts have been established, in addition to those already in operation. We will continue with this task in order to give protection to all requiring it, because of their importance and the actions taking place in them.

Police force action is not limited to this alone. Large areas are now being patrolled, which have (?asked for) this kind of police protection, both by Armed Forces personnel and police personnel. Today at 0000, for example, a large-scale operation was initiated, which for obvious reasons we cannot disclose. [end recording]

FERREIRA ALDUNATE ANNOUNCES DECISION TO RETURN

PY282355 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2308 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Uruguayan National (Blanco) Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate affirmed today that he will return to his homeland and not clandestinely -- because when I go home I will walk through the front door. He also said that fear and dependence reign in his country.

Ferreira Aldunate was the only politician who delivered a speech at a rally held at the Argentine Boxing Federation stadium in Buenos Aires. In his speech, he told the Uruguayan residents in attendance that a mobilization must be carried out right away so that the dictatorship will know what they want. He added: I have decided to return because I know that the military will only be able to do with me what you want them to do.

BLANCO PARTY REJECTS ARMED FORCES' CONDITIONS

PY280325 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Blanco Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate will announce tomorrow that he is willing to step down as presidential candidate if this decision will allow the holding of free elections without any preconditions. This is the report filed by our correspondent in Buenos Aires.

[Begin relay] We interviewed Blanco Party leader Dr Guillermo Garcia Costa a few minutes ago on the possible stepping down of Ferreira Aldunate as presidential candidate. This is what he told us:

[Begin Garcia Costa recording] [In progress] ... but I think this is what is actually happening. But I would say that what we will try to submit for the consideration of all political sectors isn't only the proscriptions, because proscriptions will not be that important when the Uruguayan people become aware of the other conditions imposed by the Armed Forces. Because I would say that proscriptions, even though important as they are -- after all they will prevent us from sponsoring our own candidate -- [Garcia Costa changes sentence pattern] the other conditions have long-term implications, namely, a democracy in which, according to the Armed Forces, an institution like the COSENA [National Security Council], which I will not describe because the Uruguayan people know all about it, will operate; a democracy in which top-ranking Armed Forces officers will be elected by the Armed Forces themselves, something that would involve the creation of a state within a state; a democracy in which military courts will keep their present jurisdiction, that is, a very serious situation of tremendous significance for the people and for each individual; and a democracy in which the constitutional rights and guarantees of individuals will be subject to restrictions.

Well, that is what the Blanco Party will ask the people to do, to reject these kinds of conditions. The Armed Forces have their own reasons for imposing these conditions, but political parties do not agree to them. Therefore, the only thing parties can do is call for a referendum. [end recording] [end relay]

GOVERNMENT CLOSES DOWN TWO PERIODICALS

PY261542 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1514 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Apr (EFE) -- The Uruguayan military Government today closed down two periodicals, one of them permanently and the other for eight issues, the publishers reported today.

The opposition weekly SOMOS IDEA of the Blanco Party was closed down permanently as punishment for having published yesterday lengthy reports on the arrival in Buenos Aires of the banned and exiled leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. The liberal economic publication BUSQUEDA was closed down for 2 months, the third sanction received since it went into circulation.

The "de facto" regime instructed the Montevideo police headquarters to relay its decision to the publishers of the periodicals.

With these two closures, President Gregorio Alvarez' administration has closed 24 publications in 30 months, the harshest campaign against the press since the advent to power of the military regime after the 27 June 1973 coup d'etat.

WEEKLY SUSPENDS PRINTING FOR 'POLITICAL REASONS'

PY270145 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The weekly LA DEMOCRACIA will not be printed this week. The director of the weekly reported that printing was suspended because of political reasons, and added that the date when the weekly will reappear will be reported in due time.

BOMBS, SHOOTING INCIDENT REPORTED IN MONTEVIDEO

PY261313 Paris AFP in Spanish 1016 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Apr (AFP) -- Shots fired against the house of a journalist and bomb explosions in two furniture shops, incidents that occurred almost simultaneously, shook the capital today. These types of incidents have not occurred here now for several years.

The house of Ignacio Lezama, publisher of the Third World newspaper CINCO DIAS, which has been closed by the government, was the target early this morning of several shots, which were apparently fired from a shotgun. Four of the shots went through the front door and a door inside the house and ended up embedded in the wall. Lezama, who is a journalist and a doctor, stated that he was inside the house with his mother, but no one was hurt.

At the same time, it was learned that two powerful bombs exploded in two shops that sell furniture and interior decoration articles. In both cases there were no victims, but there was extensive damage. The owners expressed surprise at the explosions, because they had not received threats, they do not have any problems with their personnel, and they have no political links.

The attacks occurred in the three neighborhoods of Rodo Park, Cordon, and Aguada. Up to the present time, the police have not released any information on the incidents.

BRIEFS

REPORT ON EXPORTS -- Montevideo, 22 Apr (EFE) -- According to an official report in 1983 the ALADI member-countries were the main purchasers of Uruguayan exports with 35.5 percent of the total. Of the 11 member countries, Brazil purchased 11.95 percent, which amounted to $121.3 million. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 2105 GMT 22 Apr 84 PY]

PAPO ALLEGES DEFENSE FORCES PLAN FRAUD

PA281830 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 28 Apr 84

["The Voice of the Political Parties" program with Miguel Antonio Bernal speaking on behalf of the Popular Action Party, PAPO -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Good evening, listeners of Radio Nacional. This is Miguel Antonio Bernal, speaking on behalf of PAPO. Dr Roberto Arosemera is here with me tonight to make use of the 29 minutes that the Electoral Tribunal grants each week to the political parties so they can explain their views to the listeners of this station within the framework of this electoral campaign, which culminates at midnight on Friday, 4 May.

PAPO, whose presidential ticket is headed by Dr Carlos Ivan Zuniga, (?has conducted) a nationwide political campaign to explain our party's views, principles, programs, and goals both in the interior and in the capital city. The purpose of this campaign has been to make the Panamanian people realize that far from the false bipolarization that some have sought to impose in connection with the electoral campaign, there are true alternatives for change and specific solutions for our country's current political situation after over 15 years of a military regime in which corruption, theft, and embezzlement have prevailed while our country sails amidst an increasingly grave economic, social, and political crisis.

We invite the Panamanian people to participate in the big democratic feast that our party will hold at 1500 on Thursday, 3 May, in Santa Ana Park to mark the closing of our electoral campaign. At 1900 we will begin a rally in which the PAPO presidential ticket will participate. The party has appointed several speakers to address this grand event.

PAPO has also continued denouncing to the Panamanian people the many direct interferences by the armed forces members, the Panamanian military men, in our country's political and electoral matters, as well as their open support for the barracks' candidate, Mr Nicolas Ardito Barletta. In an increasingly brazen manner, disrespectful to our countrymen, the National Guard is interfering directly, and the various state institutions, be they public, autonomous, or semiautonomous, are openly endorsing the barracks' candidacy. The listeners of Radio Nacional have the most palpable evidence of this, as this station continually transmits, on a daily basis, any speech delivered by the barracks' candidate and seeks to revive the statements of the deceased dictator in order to continue sowing confusion among our people and to further intimidate the already trampled-on consciences of the Panamanian citizens. It is against this that PAPO rebels.

Our party, PAPO, with its red and white flag, urges Panamanians not to allow themselves to be confused by the views presented in the communications media directly controlled by the National Guard's staff, as they continually seek to confuse the citizens by means of false and prefabricated polls intended to make the Panamanian people believe that there is no dignity or conscience in this country and that the only thing that prevails is the mediocrity and servility of those who back the garrisons' candidate.

A scandal has erupted in Europe where a Spanish citizen, industrialist Jose Maria Ruiz Mateo, a fugitive from Spanish justice for evading the payment of over $150 million in taxes, was detained in Frankfurt, Germany, carrying a Panamanian diplomatic passport. Here in Panama they have tried to conceal this development, and the truth has been denied in an effort to conceal the real situation. With increasing frequency and in various parts of the world, Panama's name is equivalent to corruption and a number of fraudulent developments.

The preparations to stage a fraud are advancing by great leaps. At a lecture last night Electoral Tribunal President Dr Cesar Quintero announced that the Defense Forces had asked him to grant certificates to 8,000 guardsmen so they could vote somewhere other than at their specified voting places. This reveals to us the dimension of the fraud that is currently being prepared to violate the Panamanian people's desire for true change and solutions.

PAPO has also denounced to national and international public opinion the use of public funds and funds obtained from public employees to sponsor candidacies.

PAPO also denounces the fact that several legislature candidates for the officialist parties are telling people to show up at their political headquarters at 1500 on Sunday, 6 May, so they can vote again, using the false cedulas that are currently in the hands of the leaders of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, provided by the members of the National Guard Staff.

To this we must add the fact that two computer terminals have been installed in the National Guard Staff's headquarters. These computer terminals are connected directly with the Electoral Tribunal computers. These NCR computers have been installed in the Staff's headquarters so that Staff members may not only watch the results but alter them as well, something they can do thanks to the advance of modern technology in the field of computers.

PARTIES DOCUMENT SAYS ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL BIASED

PA282317 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Apr 84 p 1 A

[Text] Two presidential candidates and six political parties have denounced, in a warning to the citizenry, "the actions and omissions of the Electoral Tribunal, which is biased in favor of continuism," adding that they will remain vigilant for any "violations of the electoral law."

The document was signed by Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, presidential candidate for the Democratic Opposition Alliance and president of the Authentic Panamenist Party; Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party and [Democratic Opposition Alliance] candidate for second vice president; Guillermo Quijano Jr, for the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement; and retired General Ruben Dario Paredes, presidential candidate for the Popular Nationalist Party and leader of the so-called "Third Force" movement.

The civic warning was also signed by Dr Arnulfo Escalona Rios, for the Authentic Liberal Party -- under formation -- and retired Colonel Camilo Saavedra, for the National Action Party, PAN, which recently received recognition as a legally registered party.

The political party representatives who signed the document announced that they will organize "a committee for vigilance over the Electoral Tribunal, which will act before, during, and after the 6 May and 3 June elections this year."

The complete text of the warning reads as follows:

"The undersigned political parties hereby warn that we will remain vigilant for any actions or omissions by the Electoral Tribunal, which is biased in favor of continuism. We have denounced such actions and will continue to denounce them.

"We reject the violations of the Electoral Law, the arbitrary interpretations that prevent a free and pure expression of the people's will, the flagrant use of taxpayers' money for political goals, the use of state personnel and equipment in a campaign that favors continuism, and any biased attitude that favors the candidates of continuism. We warn that we will be strict in our accusations, and we will hold responsible the Electoral Tribunal, its magistrates, and its personnel for any actions or omissions that we may charge. Therefore, all the undersigned parties, which are opposed to continuism, as well as national and international organizations that are interested in honest elections, will organize a committee for vigilance over the Electoral Tribunal, which will act before, during, and after the 6 May and 3 June elections this year."

Tribunal Responds

PA282319 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 28 Apr 84 pp 1 A, 10 A

[Statement by the Electoral Tribunal Press and Public Relations Directorate, signed by Magistrate Cesar Quintero, president of the Electoral Tribunal, issued in Panama City on 27 April]

[Text] The Electoral Tribunal Challenges Its Refuters

We have read with amazement a "warning" published yesterday that was allegedly signed by representatives of several political parties. The communique that includes the "warning" states that it rejects "the violations of the Electoral Law, the arbitrary interpretations that prevent a free and pure expression of the people's will, the flagrant use of the taxpayers' money for political goals, the use of state personnel and equipment in a campaign that favors continuism, and a biased attitude that favors the candidates of continuism."

Following this list of vague political irregularities, the refuters "warned" that "all responsibility for the actions or omissions charged will fall on the Electoral Tribunal, its magistrates, and its personnel."

Such a conclusion is most illogical and whimsical, since the Electoral Tribunal, because of its structure and limitations, cannot and could never be the author of all those abuses being condemned and denounced.

I sincerely believe that many of the persons who appear as signatories of this outrageous statement were deceived.

I hereby deny that the Electoral Tribunal has been involved in any political partiality, and publicly challenge the author of this strange "warning" to be more specific regarding the acts of political partiality carried out by this tribunal.

Magistrate Cesar Quintero, President of the Electoral Tribunal

PNP Denies Vigilance Committee

PA292338 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 28 Apr 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Declaration issued by the Popular Nationalist Party, PNP; date and place not given]

[Text] The Popular Nationalist Party [PNP] has seen fit to make the following declaration:

1. The PNP has attended no meeting of political parties or presidential candidates in the past few days, and much less has the PNP agreed to form an "Electoral Tribunal Vigilance Committee." We make this announcement in connection with a public communique recently issued regarding such a committee.

2. The president of the PNP is the only one authorized to use the party's name.

3. The PNP maintains its position of independent action, a position well known from its initial struggles in 1972 up to the present day.

Olimpo Saez, President; Ernesto Munoz G., First Vice President; Melquiades Medina, Second Vice President; Jose Manuel Torres R., Secretary General; Guillermo Rios V., Deputy Secretary General; Olmedo Ceballos, President of the Political and Corsulting Committee [Comite Politico y Consultivo]

PDC PRESIDENT CRITICIZES ARDITO CANDIDACY

PA272251 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Apr 84

["Voice of the Political Parties" program: statement by Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, and candidate for the second vice presidency on the Democratic Opposition Alliance ticket -- recorded]

[Excerpt] As the candidate of continuism, Nicolas Ardito Barletta represents several things. He represents the continuation of the unemployment that he helped to create with his economic policies, the continuation of the indebtedness that he helped augment with his financial policies, the continuation of the 5 percent tax that he imposed and of the high costs of electricity which he recommended, and the continuation of the administrative corruption which he never protested. He represents a civil government without any real power because he has always found a niche in the real power exercised by the military.

On the other hand, Arnulfo Arias is the candidate of a true and in-depth change because he was a victim of the military in 1968 and has been the main leader of the opposition during the past 16 years. His power does not come from the military garrisons nor the government offices, but from the people, particularly from the real people, those who have the least and support the most. He is surrounded by those of us who have fought this regime, especially the Christian Democrats.

As the candidate of change, Arnulfo Arias represents several things. He represents a new economic beginning to fight unemployment, the reprogramming of the public debt to release funds to improve public services, the end of the 5 percent tax, and the reorganization of the entire administrative structure of the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], and the reestablishment of the public service career to fight against corruption. He represents a truly democratic government in which the president will govern and not be simply an errand boy.

What is at stake is clear. Those who vote for Nicolas Ardito Barletta will vote for continuism and for what he represents. Those who vote for Arnulfo Arias will vote for change and for what we represent. To vote for anything else is to throw your vote away.

That is why I am sure that on 6 May the immense majority of the Panamanians who need and wish for a change will vote for the opposition led by Arnulfo Arias, of which the Christian Democrats are part.

We will vote for legislators like those of the Christian Democratic Party. They are opposition, they are fighting for change, and they support Arnulfo Arias. We will win like no one has ever won before.

PEOPLE'S PARTY ISSUES STATEMENT TO MEMBERS

PA280215 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Statement issued by Ruben Dario Souza, secretary general of the People's Party, PdP; read by Julio Bermudez, PdP second vice presidential candidate on "Voice of the Political Parties" program; date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: With only 6 days to go before the 6 May elections, and due to their significance for our country, our people, and our party, I deem it necessary and binding to address each member of our glorious party, appeal to his revolutionary conscience, and ask for his firm determination to make every effort to fulfill the tasks to which we have been committed during this electoral campaign.

I want to repeat what our party has proposed in several national events and in its electoral platform: that vital political, economic, and social conquests are at stake during these elections. These conquests have been attained during a long and difficult struggle by democratic and patriotic forces of the most consistent and unselfish revolutionaries of the labor class, peasants, and revolutionary intelligentsia, particularly the Panamanian Communists, as well as by international support.

U.S. imperialism and its national lackeys have united in order to annul all these measures of social progress and divert the democratic course of national liberation that General Torrijos chartered. Efforts have been made to align our country with the U.S. war, intervention, and aggression, particularly in these moments when the Central American fraternal peoples have determined to shake the oppressive yoke of the Yankees and their local servants.

In its application, Reagan's policy for Central America relies on a radical change of the current situation that facilitates the imposition of a government that is the enemy of the Sandinists and the Salvadoran revolutionaries; a government that through CONDECA [Central American Defense Council], sides with the bloody dictatorship of Honduras and docilely submits itself to all the warmongering and interventionist adventures of the region, together with the counterrevolution, by violating the canal's neutrality and ceding our territory to be used as a base and support for these wicked actions so that imperialism can continue dominating and exploiting all our peoples and their natural resources.

In view of this situation, and by a unanimous decision of the party members based on firm determination, we Panamanian Communists have determined to fully participate in the coming elections with the purpose of defending the Torrijist, democratic, anti-imperialist orientation to keep its social achievements and make its further advance possible.

Along these lines, our party will demonstrate its political power through a large number of votes that will help the party maintain its electoral rights and will give it government posts from which the party will reinforce our and all the people's struggle.

These purposes clearly define our reasons for participating in this electoral struggle which has proved more difficult because unity around Torrijos' ideals has not been possible. Consequently, we have been dispersed before a common enemy that does not conceal its purpose to destroy the national liberation's democratic process.

In view of this, we Panamanian Communists must exert exactly as we have always done, the strongest combativeness in order to defeat the enemy's plans, defend the people's conquests, and achieve the party's electoral goals. If we ommunists would mobilize with this determination, this would also be a real power. This is the power most feared by our enemies. This has been demonstrated in many battles. This has given us victories and has allowed us these conquests and the presence of a labor class party, such as ours, which has been able to revolutionarily represent our people in an electoral campaign full of bourgeois and pro-imperialist parties.

All of us have seen how the oligarchic bourgeoisie, supported by imperialism, has entered the electoral campaign with a squandering of money in order to corrupt the people and thus purchase power. This bourgeoisie has monopolized the news media in order to silence the people. But the Panamanian people, by their struggle, have shown that they are also active in the current times of social revolution and changes. The Panamanian people have demonstrated that they want a free homeland, one of social progress. The people have shown their willingness to struggle for all this. They only lack an adequate and timely orientation. This is our task, which we will fulfill in order to attain the goals we have set before ourselves.

We do not have the wealth of the oligarchs and their Yankee masters, but we have what they lack: our revolutionary willingness to defeat imperialism. We don't mean to be indifferent to wealth, which is necessary in order to support this willingness. Our party has brought into play all material resources available. In this manner we have set our structure in motion throughout the country. Our candidates are in full view of the people. Communists move throughout the nation by using our little money and our fighting willingness.

This is how we have built a considerable electoral force, which will be maintained during the 6 May elections and after the June elections. It is the duty of every communist to work for votes for our candidates, ensure them, and defend our victory. This demands a greater combativeness in the streets, as well as house to house, before the relatives and personal friends registered with the party and, finally, the party's sympathizers.

We Communists must all do our utmost in this work, fully confident that if we do it we will attain our goals and will be able to achieve a great victory in the history of our party, in the struggle of our people. We will also be able to inflict a great defeat on imperialism and its Panamanian agents. No one should remain passive in view of this great challenge and the prospect of winning. Let every one of us make his fullest contribution in this great task.

On behalf of our party's leadership and its glorious political bureau, our heroes and martyrs who expect the best from us, and the cause of proletariat and internationalism, I hereby convoke Panamanian Communists and all combatants of our party to devote themselves with all their might to this big electoral battle of our party and show, once more, that the future will be ours because we can remove the obstacles that the enemy of the classes imposes upon us.

UNADE'S ARDITO APPEARS ON POLITICAL PROGRAM

PA280004 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0115 GMT 27 Apr 84

["Know Your Candidate" program with guest Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta, presidential candidate of the Democratic National Union, UNADE; moderator Jorge Concepcion; and journalists Migdalia Fuentes, Marijulia Puyol, Jose Franco, and Juan Carlos Duque -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Fuentes] Dr Ardito Barletta, moving away from the political area a bit and into the institutional area in order to view the country as an institution, should you become president of the Republic, what role will the armed forces play in your administration?

[Ardito Barletta] The Defense Forces announced a long time ago that they would withdraw from any and all participation in a civilian government and this is the path they have followed. They would be charged with the appropriate functions and with the military aspects of the national security, those aspects connected with peace in our country and the defense of our borders. In the meantime, with increasing professionalism as an institution, they would prepare to participate in the defense of the canal through a joint defense now, while we are equal partners with the United States, and later with Panama handling it alone.

[Puyol] Dr Ardito Barletta, it has been said that to a certain extent Law 20 violates certain articles in the Constitution because it gives excessive powers to the Defense Forces. Would you amend it?

[Ardito Barletta] I think this topic of Law 20 has already been studied by our nation's Supreme Court of Justice. Several of its articles were declared unconstitutional and amended on account of this. Naturally, this law should continue to be revised if there is any problem with it. My impression is that now that the so-called unconstitutional articles have been eliminated, it now regulates the military and police functions in this nation, just as in any other Latin American nation. However, as in the case of any other law, it can continue to be studied and analyzed. It is my impression that at some point the Defense Forces commanders themselves requested the explanations and modifications deemed necessary.

[Franco] Dr Ardito Barletta, the opposition sectors that are your adversaries have told you that you have pushed us into debt. All of Panama knows that you served as planning minister under General Torrijos. My question is: Neither Gen Torrijos, nor President Royo, President Lakas, or current President Illueca have been accused of pushing us into debt. Do you think that this criticism by the opposition is unfair, that it is due to the current problems among parties exclusively, or do you have some special answer to this charge by the opposition sectors?

[Ardito Barletta] Yes. I think that those charges are demagogic, superficial, and uncertain. One need only remember the following: I was a cabinet member during the Gen Torrijos-President Lakas administration for a total of 7 years, from 1968 to 1969 and again from 1973 to 1978. Panama's current foreign debt totals about $3.3 billion. The net increase in Panama's foreign debt during the years that I served in the administration totaled $1.4 billion, that is, less than half of the existing foreign debt. It can hardly be said, therefore, that I am responsible for the nation's foreign debt.

A debt is neither necessarily good or bad. It depends on what the money is used for and how much one becomes indebted. I believe that all Panamanians know that indebtedness was and continues to be necessary for development.

[Duque] Dr Ardito Barletta, certain sectors claim that the Defense Forces have had either very little or very much to do with both the good and bad things that have happened in Panama over the last 16 years. What have the Defense Forces represented for you in the last 16 years? What do they represent for you at present, and should you rise to power, what role would the Defense Forces play in the national life with regard to domestic affairs and the defense of the Panama Canal?

[Ardito Barletta] I participated in Gen Torrijos' administration after he invited me to contribute to the nation's overall development. We were intent at the time on concluding the negotiations for a new Panama Canal Treaty (?with) President Carter's government. I think that now we can acknowledge the fact that the historic circumstances that permitted the negotiation of that treaty were extremely special and fleeting and had to be taken advantage of at the time in order to attain our full sovereignty and the full integration of the national territory.

Naturally, we did not obtain all that we wanted, but we did obtain a lot, and we Panamanians can now take advantage of this. In the future us can continue making our own efforts with great dignity and national independence in order to finally consolidate our aspirations.

In short, Gen Torrijos invited me to participate in this endeavor. As a professional I did so during what I think was a difficult international moment -- the 1974-1976 period -- dificult also because of the effort and the struggle needed to negotiate and conclude those treaties, thus completing an important phase in this country's life.

[Fuentes] Dr Ardito Barletta, the sectors radically opposed to your candidacy espouse the idea of eliminating the 5 percent tax as part of their political platform. As an economist who has participated in the government's activities, is it possible to eliminate the 5 percent tax? What other measure would be needed to do this?

[Ardito Barletta] I think that recommendation is somewhat irresponsible. Naturally, we would all like to eliminate taxes while also hoping to have more services. However, we all know that the services we want cost money. I can guarantee that the elimination of that tax would force whoever is in the government to raise some other tax in order to be able to collect an equivalent sum, so as to satisfy the Panamanian people's social needs.

Let me say this: The 5 percent tax does not tax food, medicine, housing, the various services, or the public utilities. It therefore does not tax 90 percent of the expenses of those families which earn less than $200 per month. However, this tax, which mostly taxes durable and luxury property such as cars, television sets, air conditioners, etc, collects more than $80 million a year. This money is used to finance the medical services, to pay teachers' wages, and to build schools and rural water systems. The Panamanian people must ask themselves which they prefer.

[Concepcion] Dr Ardito Barletta, you are backed by several political parties which at certain times hold their own views. How would you govern should you become president so that many vitally important decisions would not be based on politics but on facts?

[Ardito Barletta] Just as does any other democratic government anywhere else in the world. When certain groups find they have common objectives, that they have concurring views on the problems and in choosing the institutions to solve these problems, when they find that they have common goals which they wish to pursue to satisfy the people's and the nation's demands, a coalition of political parties is formed. Naturally, this entails much internal reconciliation, communication, and debate, but in the end, decisions are made concerning what needs to be done. I can assure you that each of the parties that comprises UNADE has men and women who are experienced professionals capable of carrying out their functions. After agreeing on the contents of the platform we have already published with which all citizens are familiar and through which we have put down in black and white what we plan to do to resolve our country's problems, and thinking we have managed to reflect the Panamanian people's feelings as to what is desired at this point, we are ready to take the path outlined in our platform to put it into practice.

[Duque] Should you become president, could reconciliation mean participation by the opposition in your cabinet? Under your administration, could the word reconciliation mean the amendment of the Defense Forces laws or an improvement of the Constitution if the organized groups request this through their natural leaders?

[Ardito Barletta] The most important thing needed to maintain the country's stability is to preserve the rules of the game: maintaining clear expectations and a sense of balance. I think that we have a good Constitution, a Constitution that was reformed last year by means of a national plebiscite in which all Panamanian groups participated, in what constituted a great demonstration of this nation's negotiating capacity. We should now be governed by that Constitution. I think that those who go around suggesting that changes be introduced into the Constitution do not know what the country needs right now. It needs stability, clear rules for the game. And the major rules that govern the national life are established in the national Constitution. So at this point, I am not in favor of introducing changes into the national Constitution. This is not the kind of change that this country needs. The kind of change it needs is the one I mentioned at the beginning: a change in the economic policy and in our attitudes. We must maintain a balance, and all sectors must participate.

As to whether the members of the opposition parties will participate in the cabinet, that would be decided later. Obviously, my first obligation in this regard would be toward the parties that made me their candidate and represent the people's will. This, however, does not mean that the door would be closed to other possible alliances or negotiations that would permit the greatest national consensus in order to govern appropriately.

[Fuentes] Dr Ardito Barletta, you studied in the United States, where you have also worked. In the opinion of certain sectors in this country you should logically be inclined to endorse the U.S. policy in Latin America. The relationship between Panama and the United States is a very sensitive issue in our nation's institutional life. How do you conceive this relationship?

[Ardito Barletta] Migdalia, I have never been more Panamanian than when I lived in the United States. I have never remembered my country with greater affection, or yearned for it more than when I lived in the United States. I respect the American people. I have learned a lot from those people, they are a great people, but I am Panamanian. I have a clear idea of what my roots are, what our country wants, what our culture is like, and how it differs from theirs. These are things that one learns to respect through the years. For we Panamanians, the major thing is to satisfy our national interests, creating a stable nation where there is economic progress and participation by all Panamanians in the national development; a nation that is as independent as possible in the international arena -- independence being understood as the ability to choose at a given point -- a nation with the freedom to analyze the various alternatives and choose one, knowing that there is world interdependence among all nations; a nation that enjoys peace and democracy and is respected. In this regard, it may be that sometimes our national interest might coincide with the national interests of the United States. For instance, we have negotiated a treaty to administer a canal that is important both for us and for them. We have thus established a special relationship that must be maintained with great class, dignity, and independence so that we may obtain for Panama what we think Panama needs. I have often said that it is in our best interest to convince the United States that what is best for the United States is a developed Panama, where there is social justice for the Panamanian people, a stable and independent Panama, because this is the best possible friend it could have. It must believe that its national interest calls for helping us to attain the most sublime wishes of the Panamanian people, in order to preserve our peace and independence.

I repeat: In this regard, our relationship with the United States must be marked by class, dignity, frankness, understanding, and mutual respect. If I indeed have any advantage in this regard, it is that I know the American people. I know them because I have lived among them, I have negotiated with them, I have worked with them, and I know what must be done to make them respect and appreciate you and be willing to cooperate with you.

Views Economic Crisis

PA270438 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Speech by Nicolas Ardito Barletta, presidential candidate for the National Democratic Union, at a political rally in Herrera Province on 25 April -- recorded]

[Excerpts] We have gathered here because we want to maintain peace in this country, because we want to return to the path of economic progress in order to create more jobs; also, because we want to establish a constructive democracy that the Panamanian people desire, because we are the positive change our people want at a time of changing realities in Panama and the world.

We have seen that there are two main concerns in the minds of all Panamanians. The first one is a concern over the economic crisis we are confronting, which has grave social consequences, since unemployment and social unrest have increased in Panama.

We Panamanians all know that this crisis is due to the worst economic crisis in the world in 50 years. We know that this crisis has affected all of Latin America to a great extent, and that although the situation in Panama is not as difficult as in Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay, and other countries, it is serious enough for all Panamanians to share this concern.

C.A., CONTADORA FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN PANAMA

PA301847 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1803 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Panama City, 30 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The five Central American foreign ministers met here at noon today with their colleagues of the "Contadora Group" to study the peace proposals for the region.

The sixth summit meeting will discuss the recommendations drafted by the three commissions (security, political, and socioeconomic) formed by the representatives of all the countries involved in the crisis, diplomatic sources have reported.

Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran of Guatemala, Edgardo Paz Barnica of Honduras, Fidel Chavez Mena of El Salvador, Carlos Jose Gutierrez of Costa Rica, and Miguel D'Escoto of Nicaragua are attending the meeting.

The members of the mediation group, who have been trying for 15 months to avert a general conflict in Central America, are Oyden Ortega, foreign minister of Panama, Bernando Sepulveda of Mexico, Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo of Colombia, and Isidro Morales Paul of Venezuela, are also attending.

Ministers on Contadora Process

PA301642 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1507 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The Colombian, Guatemalan, and Venezuelan foreign ministers have expressed optimism that the ministerial meeting of the Contadora Group will today arrive at proposals to define a peace agreement.

Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo commented to the press upon arrival in Panama:

[Begin Lloreda recording, in progress] ... legitimate interest of all countries to keep this process alive [words indistinct] so it may advanced. Our duty is to persuade Central Americans, and also other countries, that this is the only viable course to avert war in Central America. [end recording]

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade emphasized his viewpoints on the draft peace treaty being analyzed by the Contadora Group.

[Begin Andrade recording] We agree that a permanent peace treaty must be signed as soon as possible. We feel that (?precisely) because of the complications that have developed in the past few months, it is even more necessary now to reach an understanding that will make it possible to sign a permanent peace treaty. We believe that it must be a multilateral peace treaty. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul stressed the need for dialogue and a negotiated settlement of the conflict in Central America. Here is what he said about the negotiations process:

[Begin Morales recording] These are the developing stages which will in the end lead to the possibility of [signing] a peace treaty if the parties directly involved demonstrate their political will to abide by the [resolutions of] the forum, because we will achieve nothing against the political will of the countries directly involved. [end recording]

Paz Barnica Press Conference

PA010029 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Apr 84

[News conference granted by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica in Panama City on the occasion of a meeting of the Contadora Group and the Central American foreign ministers; date not given; all questioners unidentified -- recorded]

[Text] [Paz Barnica] Honduras has come here with an open mind to continue to contribute to a peaceful solution, by diplomatic means, within the framework of the Contadora Group's efforts. We feel that the Contadora Group is a forum for negotiation and a strategy that is in keeping with the interests of all the states seeking an overall regional solution, as has been stipulated in the Document of Objectives and the Document of Rules for the Implementation of the Commitments made in the Document of Objectives.

We believe that the efforts of the Contadora Group should be bolstered and promoted, and that the obstacles that have emerged within the working committees as a result of hindering activities should be overcome. Hence, there are two main requirements for increasing and promoting those efforts: 1) There must be a true political intention on the part of the Central American states, as has been demonstrated by Honduras and other countries in the area, and 2) The Contadora Group must act with absolute impartiality and objectivity to avoid deviating from its function of offering its good offices, the role entrusted to it by the five Central American states.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Secretary, don't you think that the document that you have presented hinders the Contadora Group's negotiating efforts?

[Paz Barnica] Much to the contrary, it specifically reflects the various aspects of the Document of Objectives. It is an appeal, a warning to expedite the efforts of the working committees and to achieve a general treaty of cooperation, democracy, and security within an overall, regional context.

Three countries have made this proposal. In any case, the Contadora Group presidents, in their Declaration of Cancun in July 1983, clearly stated that it is up to the Central American countries themselves to solve their problems with the solidarity and cooperation of democratic Latin American governments like the four governments that make up the Contadora Group, which, in Honduras' opinion, could be strengthened and expanded by the incorporation of a democratic government like the Government of the Dominican Republic. Honduras proposed this over a year ago, in December 1982, when President Suazo Cordova called for an end to bilateral assessments, which were unfruitful, and urged that a five-to-five multilateral meeting be held, that is, a meeting of the five Central American foreign ministers with five democratic Latin American countries.

The Contadora Group members themselves have said that it is a Latin American organization, and that the problem should be solved in an overall, regional context; that is, without making it universal and without including elements from outside the region or the continent.

[Reporter] The Nicaraguan foreign minister has said that countries in the area, especially your country, are supporting the interventionist U.S. policy.

[Paz Barnica] No. We are traditionally guided by the principles of international law, such as nonintervention and the self-determination of peoples. The principle of self-determination [as heard] must be completely reciprocal, and the principle of self-determination must be manifested as a mechanism that allows peoples to express their will freely through honest suffrage.

On the other hand, today I read statements in the Panamanian press by the Managua government to the effect that the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras have asked that this meeting be postponed. That is completely untrue. We have come here to promote this meeting so that the Contadora Group's efforts can be expedited and more dynamic.

[Reporter] What can you tell us about a tour of Cuban and the United States by the Contadora Group and Central American foreign ministers?

[Paz Barnica] I believe that this should be discussed by the Contadora Group and the five Central American countries. As I have already said, the five Central American countries conferred upon the Contadora Group its role as a good-offices organization. Such a delicate topic, which would tend to make the conflict universal, or make it even more a factor of the East-West confrontation, must be examined in depth to ensure that it does not extend beyond the purview of the Contadora Group and the decisions of the five Central American countries, which in the Document of Objectives stated their determination to resolve the acute Central American crisis in an overall, regional context.

The important thing is to work for peace and to see that when an important factor, like the arms buildup, interrupts that peace process, measures are taken through multilateral negotiations to halt, reduce, or eliminate the arms buildup. Within the working committees, we have encountered very clear obstacles in this regard from the Nicaraguan Government. We hope the Nicaraguan Government will reflect on and put aside this intrasigent attitude, in order to achieve peaceful coexistence among the five countries. Honduras has a democratic government and a commitment to peace, but it must also be ready to defend itself in any eventuality. That is the legitimate right of all states. Honduras, I repeat, is most willing to contribute to this peaceful coexistence with Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Costa Rica, but in an overall, regional context; a multilateral context, as we have been doing within the Contadora Group, with the valuable, timely cooperation of the Governments of Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia, and Panama.

[Reporter] What about the latest changes in top Honduran military positions?

[Paz Barnica] Well, that was an internal adjustment made by the Honduran Armed Forces under the guidance and direction of President Roberto Suazo Cordova, in his capacity as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and in line with his constitutional functions and the mechanisms of the Constitution.

I believe that those changes have strengthened Honduras' democratic position and its democratic process, which began over 2 years ago. It has also strengthened President Suazo Cordova's civil authority.

COSTA RICA

AIRSPACE VIOLATION BY UNIDENTIFIED PLANE REPORTED

PA301903 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1844 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] San Jose, 30 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- An unidentified aircraft overflew airspace on Costa Rica's northern border yesterday in the sector of "Tiricias de San Carlos" and strafed part of our national territory, it was officially reported today.

According to Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano, when the attack occurred, the authorities in the region advised the police high command.

Agents of the National Department of Intelligence and Security, of the office of the deputy director of the Civil Guard, and the commander of the region were dispatched to the region to draft a report, which apparently will be presented to the session of the Security Council to be held this afternoon.

During the strafing, some of the shrapnel fell on Costa Rican territory, according to unconfirmed reports. It was reported that two persons were wounded in the attack. Later, it was confirmed that they had not been Costa Rican civilians, but two Nicaraguan combatants of "ARDE" [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] forces who had been taken to Costa Rica for medical attention.

The fact that both the Sandinist Army and ARDE forces constantly overfly the border region makes it very difficult to establish to whom the plane belonged.

According to Costa Rican authorities in the area, aside from yesterday's incident, there is complete calm in the region, although strong clashes are apparently taking place on Nicaraguan territory.

Incident Under Investigation

PA302017 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Carlos Jimenez report from the Public Security Ministry]

[Text] Upon learning of the new violation of our territory committed by the Sandinist Army last weekend, more specifically yesterday, Sunday, Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon ordered the immediate collection of all evidence left after an attack was staged on Costa Rican territory. He also instructed the DIS [Intelligence and Security Directorate] officials to prepare a report. The officials left for the area yesterday to collect all pertinent information. According to the minister, he has not yet received this report. Several officials have been flown to the zone in question to bring back the evidence collected in the zone of Tiricias, where an attack was staged yesterday.

According to preliminary information, Sandinist Air Force push-and-pull planes dropped rockets and grenades on the Costa Rican side.

Solano Calderon has promised that in the next few hours he will provide the necessary details and will report the incident to the Foreign Ministry.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS OBSERVERS TO CERTIFY NEUTRALITY

WA010712 Rome IPS in English 26 Apr 84

[Text] San Jose, April 26 (IPS) -- The Costa Rican Government will request that the Contadora Group send a team of civilian observers to "certify" the country's declared policy of neutrality in Central America's conflicts, a government spokesman said here today. Chief presidential aide Fernando Berrocal announced that Foreign Minister Carlos Gutierrez has already sent a request to Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia -- the four members of the Contadora Group, which has been seeking peace in the region.

"Costa Rica has nothing to hide. We are totally open to the arrival of not only Contadora observers but of correspondents from all media in the world," Berrocal added.

The government move announced today appears linked to increasing friction between Costa Rica and Nicaragua over the presence of Nicaraguan rebels here.

The chief of the political bureau of the Nicaraguan Army, Hugo Torres, today charged the Costa Rican Government with "complicity" in anti-Sandinista activites.

"The complicity of Costa Rican officials...carrying out orders by the U.S. Government, is threatening Costa Rica's so-called neutrality," he charge in a declaration in Managua, Nicaragua.

Costa Rica has repeatedly denied that the rebels, of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), led by Eden Pastora, better known as Commander Cero," operate from its territory.

But THE NEW YORK TIMES reported this week that ARDE has bribed Costa Rican officials with money from the Central Intelligence Agency, which, according to the report, provides the rebel group with $400,000 per month. Both the Costa Rican Government and ARDE officials have vehemently denied the reports.

Nevertheless, since the reports surfaced, the government has moved to curb ARDE's activities in Costa Rica. Police last night reported that they had dismantled ARDE's communications equipment, and the night before, security forces raided an ARDE headquarters just outside the capital and arrested 12 members of the rebel organization.

Pastora, a former member of the Sandinista government, told the Costa Rican radio station Radio Monumental yesterday that the CIA was pressuring the authorities here to crackdown on the group.

"The CIA wants us to unite with the Somocista [National] Guard that operates from Honduras in northern Nicaragua, and for that, has pressured the Costa Rican authorities," he said.

Pastora was apparently referring to the other main rebel group, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), which he has accused of being led by former members of the Nicaraguan National Guard of the late dictator, Anastasio Somoza.

An FDN spokesman announced yesterday in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, that Pastora and FDN leader Aldolfo Calero were to meet soon in an attempt to "unite the...groups and obtain military coordination...."

The spokesman, Edgar Chamorro, said that "unity would help us obtain aid" from the United States. Chamorro was referring to pending congressional action on a request by the Reagan administration for $21 million in additional aid this year to the Nicaraguan rebels. The Senate has already approved the aid, but the House of Representatives has yet to. House members have indicated that they will not approve the request.

Pastora suggested in the interview with Radio Monumental that the CIA was promoting unification because of ARDE's recent success against Nicaraguan troops and the FDN's recent failures. He charged that the CIA is seeking his expulsion from Costa Rica. "Here we will continue the struggle even in isolation as the Costa Rican national security [forces] want, obeying the orders of the CIA," he added.

Asked about a recent statement by the FDN that it would "occupy southern Nicaragua" if ARDE stopped fighting, Pastora said, "we will wait for them here with 10,000 guns, just as they are waiting for us in Honduras, where they imprison us and torture us.

"That is what the CIA [and] the Costa Rican security forces want. They want the Somocista guard here. But they are never going to enter [Nicaragua], neither from the north nor the south. The Somocista guard is the horrendous past, which all of Nicaragua, Sandinistas, communists, speakers of the devil, speakers of Christ, will never permit," he declared.

MINISTER SOLANO DEFENDS SECURITY OPERATIONS

PA302135 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano has said that there is too much ado about the fact that his ministry is conducting intelligence and security operations in various parts of the country. He added that his ministry is trying to eliminate any possibility of interference in Costa Rican domestic affairs by both Sandinist and anti-Sandinist elements.

These operations must be seen as something normal, since the objective is to guarantee the peace and calm that all Costa Ricans want, he said.

Minister Solano characterized THE NEW YORK TIMES journalists as cowards because they issue reports without naming their sources. This U.S. daily on 23 April published a report alleging Costa Rican officials are involved in bribery dealings with rebels.

Minister Solano said it is an act of great cowardice to generalize and not give the names of the allegedly bribed officials because the honor of some people is at stake. Unfortunately, he said, some sectors of the world news media are content with being busy about trifles instead of searching for the truth, which should be the guideline and basis for all journalists.

EL SALVADOR

D'AUBUISSON CRITICIZES DUARTE, U.S. AMBASSADORS

PA301355 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Presidential candidate Roberto D'Aubuisson today lashed out at the former and current U.S. ambassadors to El Salvador. During an interview granted to Cable News Network, he also charged that Jose Napoleon Duarte, his liberal opponent for the 6 May elections, is pro-communist.

D'Aubuisson, presidential candidate of the rightist party ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], said that Thomas R. Pickering, current U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, (?shows) favoritism to Duarte, presidential candidate of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC].

D'Aubuisson added that former ambassador Robert White is responsible for linking him with the death squads in El Salvador, with which D'Aubuisson denies having had any involvement.

During his interview with Cable News Network, D'Aubuisson described President Ronald Reagan as a great benefactor of Central America and defender of El Salvador, but criticized former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, whom he described as "Fidel Carter" or "Jimmy Castro," for his efforts to carry out an agrarian reform in El Salvador.

Assails Pickering Book

FL301914 Bridgetown CANA in English 1929 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Washington, April 28 (CANA-REUTER) -- The rightist candidate for president of El Salvador, Robert D'Aubuisson, today assailed the present and past U.S. ambassadors to his country. In an interview over Cable News Network, he also called his liberal opponent in the May 8 presidential election, Jose Napoleon Duarte, pro-communist. D'Aubuisson said the present ambassador, Thomas Pickering, was biased in favour of Duarte and that his goals were not those of Americans or those he, D'Aubuisson, was fighting for.

He said Pickering co-authored a book which was critical of the increase in Latin American population. D'Aubuisson added that "they (the co-authors) calculate that about 20 million Latin Americans ought to die and about three million should be Central Americans." He added if that is the way Pickering feels, "he's not exactly in accord with the human rights that we believe in."

D'Aubuisson said that previous ambassador, Robert White, was responsible for linking him to El Salvador's death squads, with which D'Aubuisson denied involvement.

DUARTE PROPOSES 'SOCIAL PACT' TO OTHER PARTIES

PA010142 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1644 GMT 30 Apr 84

[By Cristina Hasbun de Merino]

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Only 5 days before the second round of the presidential elections, the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, has proposed to the other Salvadoran political parties that a "social pact" to bring the country out of the current social-economic-political crisis be signed.

PDC presidential candidate Jose Napoleon Duarte said last night during a television address that the "social pact" is open to all political groups that took part in the 25 March electoral campaign. However, he did not specify whether the proposal is also open to the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA), his opponent in the 6 May elections.

The PDC and ARENA differ the most in their political stands of the eight parties that took part in the 25 March elections. The two parties began trying to obtain the support of the other groups to ensure a victory as soon as the results of that elections were known. Duarte explained that the parties signing the "social pact" would commit themselves to work for the nation's welfare and to follow eight fundamental objectives, including: working toward peace and democracy, respecting human rights, reactivating the economy, and bringing about improvements in the fields of education and culture. Duarte said that all these points are included in his government platform.

Duarte pointed out that so far the PDC has the public support of the Popular Orientation Party (POP) and the Stable Centrist Republican Movement (MERECEN). The two parties received 0.38 percent [figure as received] of the votes in the 25 March elections.

Moreover, Duarte added, the PDC has signed a "social pact" with the Democratic Popular Unity (UPD), which claims the loyalty of more than 400,000 members of worker-peasant organizations. The PDC also has the support of the National Association of Salvadoran Artisans (Asociacion Nacional de Artesanos Salvadorenos -- ANAS) and the National Council of Salvadoran Businessmen (CONAES).

Meanwhile, ARENA claims in its electoral propaganda to have the support of all "republican and nationalist" parties, whose members will vote on 6 May against the PDC's communitarianism, "which is the same as communism."

The National Conciliation Party (PCN), which placed third in the 25 March elections, announced to its members and sympathizers that the party has not expressed its support for any of the opposing parties taking part in the second round. According to Durate, "this is a position of neutrality deserving respect."

The PCN and the PDC have been the traditional rival parties. The PCN ruled the country for 18 years until the 15 October 1979 coup d'etat, which brought about the government junta over which Durate presided. However, the PCN currently describes itself "as the moderating force between the two extremes."

According to Gregorio Rosas Chavez, the auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, the electoral campaign being waged by the two rival parties for the second round of elections has been harshly criticized by the Catholic Church, which believes that the "the two parties are conducting an unbelievably frightening campaign of insults and charges that are often irresponsible."

PDC, ARENA LEADERS WRAP UP ELECTION CAMPAIGN

PA301450 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Jose Napoleon Durate and Rodolfo Castillo Claramount, presidential and vice presidential candidates, respectively, of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] are meeting right now with followers in the San Jose California School in Sonsonate. With this meeting, the PDC political leaders conclude their public appearances until elections day next Sunday.

The Democratic Independent Party, the Popular Orientation Party, the Stable Centrist Republican Movement, and the Democratic Action have already publicly announced that they have joined the PDC's cause.

The Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA] is holding talks with the leaders of the National Conciliation Party to secure more votes to enable it to defeat the PDC next Sunday.

Last Saturday, ARENA leaders visited areas of conflict in the country's eastern region, especially in the Departments of Morazan and San Miguel. ARENA has continued working and explaining to the Salvadoran people its political and government platform in an effort to win the 6 May elections.

ARENA is publicly being supported already by the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party [PAISA] and the Salvadoran Popular Party [PPS].

ARMED FORCES TAKE CONTROL OF OSICALA, DELICIAS

PA301420 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Armed Forces units and counterinsurgency specialists are maintaining control in the towns of Osicala and Delicias de Concepcion, north of San Francisco Gotera, after FMLN rebels tried to seize these villages early Friday morning. According to official reports, four soldiers dies and five were seriously wounded in the attack by the rebels, who had 15 dead.

GUATEMALA

MINISTER EXPLAINS NONATTENDANCE IN SAN SALVADOR

PA271937 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran has revealed the reasons he did not travel to El Salvador:

[Begin Diaz-Duran recording] We received an invitation issued by Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena to all the foreign ministers in the area to attend a meeting and discuss Central American problems. I apologized and told him that due to previous commitments -- mainly an economic cabinet meeting I had to attend today -- I would be unable to attend that informal meeting. [end recording]

POLITICAL ALLIANCE CUTS OUT MEMBER PARTY

PA272321 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] An alliance composed of three political committees was reduced to two yesterday when the Populist Party was left out; the coalition now consists only of the groups called the Guatemalan Democratic Coordinating Board and People's Democratic Force. The Guatemalan Democratic Coordinating Board is headed by (Jose Miguel Barrios), who organized the Guevarista National Coordinating Board in the last elections. Meanwhile, the People's Democratic Force is under the leadership of Francisco Reyes Ixcamey. The two organizations held their own general assemblies last night. Reyes Ixcamey, secretary general of the People's Democratic Force, explained why the Populist Party is no longer part of the alliance.

[Begin Reyes Ixcamey recording] Regarding the Populist Party, they have eliminated themselves. We do not know why, but they no longer attended our meetings. We gave them a deadline that expired yesterday, but they failed to attend, and we do not know why. Therefore, they have been definitely eliminated from the coalition, and it will now be composed of only two parties. We had started talks with the Populist Party on the organization of our list of candidates for the national constituent assembly. We had reached some agreements, even with Asisclo Valladares, who accepted them, and then they no longer attended the meetings to agree on the list of deputy candidates [words indistinct]. As I said, the party has been eliminated from the alliance for lack of assistance and lack of interest. [end recording]

Likewise, (Jose Miguel Barrios), secretary general of the Guatemalan Democratic Coordinating Board, gave another version regarding the Populist Party's elimination from the alliance, which is now comprised of two committees.

[Begin (Barrios) recording] We believed that the Populist Party did not fit in the development scheme of what was being planned here, in this new political structure. We believe that even though we had agreed on certain ideological aspects, we did not fit in the populist type of work at the national level. If populism were to be treated as an ideology at the national level, it could really cause some kind of internal conflict in our organizations, whose ideology is different. In other words, we are mostly concerned about the alliance's organization, and the formal alliance between the Guatemalan Democratic Coordinating Board and the People's Democratic Force was established yesterday. The two organizations held their own national assemblies yesterday and the great national electoral alliance was formally approved. As of Monday, it will start an open political campaign, seeking to rescue all national values. [end recording]

UNIONS FEAR VIOLENCE, NOT TO PARADE 1 MAY

PA010230 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2258 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 30 Apr (DPA) -- According to a communique released by National Coordinator of Labor Unity [Coordinadora Nacional de Unidad Sindical -- CONUS] published in the local press, Guatemalan workers will not parade tomorrow because they fear possible repression. CONUS said that the outbreak of violence "by the enemies of the working class is aimed at destroying union organizations." To this end, various "methods" are used, ranging from "massive dismissals to the abduction, disappearance, and murder of union leaders."

The communique reported on some of the "most painful acts" that have occurred in recent months and mentioned the names of 13 abducted union leaders. The communique also noted the discovery of the body of lawyer Santiago Lopez Aguilar, who was an adviser to the workers, and recalled the pressure and threats against unions that have forced leaders to go into hiding. The communique went on to say that in view of this, "it has been decided not to carry out any parade on 1 May, since we would only be giving an excuse to our enemies for them to intensify their repressive campaign against us."

In addition, the Central American Glass Enterprise [Industria Centroamericana del Vidrio--CAVISA] workers union today also published a communique indicating that "to organize a peaceful demonstration on 1 May would give the Amred Forces an excellent opportunity to seize countless numbers of our companeros." The CAVISA union again appealed to the abductors of the union's secretary, Edgar Fernando Garica, requesting that "he be released unharmed, so that he can return to a happy life with his family." The union has also asked "the human rights committees, Amnesty International, and the church to watch over the respect for human life."

HONDURAS

PNH CHARGES U.S. ENVOY BLIND TO ELECTORAL FRAUD

PA301815 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Apr 84

["Public declaration" by the National Party of Honduras, PNH, read by an unidentified person on the party's political advertising radio spot; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] The U.S. ambassador, on behalf of his country, neither can nor should remain deaf and blind to Honduran reality. In an effort to impose democracy both in El Salvador and in Nicaragua, the norther colossus seeks a stability already lost for Central America, while endangering the well-being of the entire hemisphere. Millions are invested to achieve this, and efforts are made to strengthen anticommunist regimes, because the loss of the Central American isthmus would mean the establishment of enemy cannons at the American people's backs.

Honduras has become its bastion and all operations designed to impose democracy are launched from here. But the ambassador does not see. He refuses to recognize that here in Honduras, democracy is languishing and is being eroded. The ambassador looks the other way when, with utmost shamelessness, our government meddles in the country's majority party, the PNH, and seeks to eliminate it by means of legal sophistries that constitute a supreme mockery of respect for law, customary only in those dictatorships where the leader's will is imposed with blood and bullets.

While hymns are sung to Honduran democracy, Suazo Cordova's government makes 100 or 200 Honduran citizens disappear.

They are found much later in common graves and isolated sites. They are murdered by the current regime, which, while carrying out these perverse actions, shrieks that democracy prevails here and whispers to the winds the evil excuse that the militarymen are to blame for all these evil actions, when those who disappear are enemies of the regime, not of the Army. The ambassador does not want to know that this is happening in what is depicted daily as a perfect democracy.

The freedom to register is altered, and an electoral fraud is prepared so that the current regime can impose its party's members. But the ambassador does not notice this ignoble procedure that prostitutes the freedom to elect honestly. PNH representatives are bought off so that, in carrying out their duties at the National Registry or the Electoral Tribunal, they agree to violate the honest procedures that should exist there so that people can express their will with the necessary respect from the authorities. The ambassador sees none of this because he does not want to see it. Liberal Party thugs attack the registry office when it is directed by PNH members, in order to gain total control over this office, where some PNH representation still remains. However, the ambassador refuses to see this collapse of democracy.

The United States of America wants to present us as a democratic mirror, and its representative seeks to conceal the truth when remaining silent in face of the impending disaster and the disrespect shown to our country's laws, which in the end violate the Constitution itself.

Democracy cannot exist where the majority party, the PNH, is being harassed, insulted, and restricted in all its freedoms, while a monstrous electoral fraud that cannot end well and is doomed to fail, is openly set in motion. This dangerous time bomb will explode under the ambassador's very nose. He is blind, deaf, and mute in the face of a reality that is as clear as day.

SALVADORAN REFUGEES ARRIVE, RECOUNT HARDSHIPS

PA302029 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0030 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Excerpts] More than 300 Salvadoran refugees arrived here in Honduras over the weekend. According to the refugees, clashes take place continuously in their country, where the guerrillas recruit their children on a compulsory basis. According to their charges, the guerrillas even recruit women against their will. With their faces showing anguish, exhaustion, and fatigue, several Salvadoran families managed to arrive in this capital after experiencing an odyssey to save their lives, according to what they told the mass media at a news conference held yesterday by the Honduran Armed Forces. The Honduran militarymen gave them their entire cooperation so they could arrive here in the capital, where their fate will be decided.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] Until now the guerrillas had been working in a manner that at least did not affect the people. However, at daybreak on Wednesday 18 April, several individuals who identified themselves as members of the FMLN showed up along the Sabanetas border area. They searched each house thoroughly and announced several meetings in various villages. We showed up for these meetings because they had previously done this kind of political propaganda, and we thought this was something normal that would not affect us.

We attended the meetings, where the guerrillas said the usual: That the guerrillas are winning the war while the Army is losing ground, and that we had to prepare for the Yankee and Honduran invasions. To this end, they said, the first thing that we want to do this time is to divide people into age groups in the following manner:

From 7 to 14 years of age, all children should attend the military schools where guerrilla teachers will conduct classes; from 15 to 30 years of age, military service is compulsory; from 30 to 40 years of age, people must carry out military engineering work such as digging trenches and graves, and must also receive military training at least 4 times per month; from 40 to 50 years of age, they must participate in productive activities so products can be obtained for the combatants.

We were still not afraid, because we thought they would just say this and not do it. At that point, a guerrilla commander there -- somebody I happen to know -- established radio communication and received the order that all those between the ages of 15 and 30 years had to be taken right away to the military school that operates in Perquin Municipality. When we heard this, we all began (?to feel afraid). We argued that some of us had risen at 0500 and had not yet had our coffee. The meeting ended at 1100 and we asked them to at least let us go home to eat and talk to our families, as some of us had sick wives or children. But they completely opposed this idea and told us that this was an order, that they, the guerrillas, were the authority that must now be accepted in the area, and that we had to do what they told us. So the people (?abandoned the area). [end recording]

It has been learned that the guerrillas are detaining over 300 people who refused to fight the Salvadoran Army in an area in Perquin.

Today (?some of the) Salvadoran refugees are to be taken to El Amatillo. From there they can reach other Salvadoran villages, where they claim to have relatives. The children are the most affected by this experience. All of them are very young and they have endured all kinds of suffering, especially with regard to food, of which they have had very little. Despite the fact that the Honduran Armed Forces have cooperated with them in every possible way, the refugees' situation is very difficult.

FOUR BODIES FOUND NEAR COLOMANCAGUA CAMP

PA280410 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Apr 84 p 9

[Excerpt] Colonel Abraham Garcia Turcios, coordinator general of the National Refugee Commission, yesterday confirmed the deaths of four civilians near a Salvadoran refugee camp in Colomancagua, Intibuca Department. The official was unable, however, to specify whether the dead persons were Salvadoran refugees or rebels. The bodies were found on Sunday. "The incident occurred on Sunday around 8:00 or 9:00 [not further specified] in the area of San Antonio, Intibuca Department," the colonel said while answering a charge presented by the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Honduras (CODEH), the organization that made the incident public. Garcia Turcios added that the CODEH "is trying to imply that the incident took place inside the camps, and this is not ture. The incident occurred about 600 meters outside the camps." He added that the bodies were found "on a road used by the Salvadorans" to travel to El Salvador.

NICARAGUA

PROTEST NOTES SENT TO HONDURAS, COSTA RICA

PA010418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0259 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] Managua, 30 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government tonight protested a number of attacks against Nicaraguan positions "from the territories of Honduras and Costa Rica."

According to the notes sent by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to the Governments of Honduras and Costa Rica, the attacks on Nicaragua's northern border were carried out by "commando groups" and by units of the Honduran Army. The attacks against the southern border were carried out by the rebels of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, whose leader is Eden Pastora, better known as "Commander Cero." The Managua authorities said that one soldier was killed, six others were wounded, one was kidnapped, and three are missing as a result of these latest attacks.

The note sent by Nicaragua's Acting Foreign Minister Nora Astorga to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica said that a "commando group" "from Honduran territory" attacked 12 soldiers of the Nicaraguan Army who were guarding the Estero Real Bridge, in Chinandega Department. One soldier was wounded, one was kidnapped, and three others are missing as a result of that action. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry added that after the "commando group" carried out the attack early this morning, "it withdrew to its positions in Honduran territory."

The Foreign Ministry also indicated that on 23 April, units of the Honduran Army shot at the border post of La Ceiba, 5 km east of Somotillo, in the northwestern Department of Chinandega.

According to the official report, on 29 April a silver-colored twin-engine aircraft "that entered from Honduras" flew at 1,000 meters above the port of Morazan, also in Chinandega Department. The local antiaircraft defense repelled the "enemy" aircraft, forcing it to retreat to its place of origin, the official source added. Another attack by units of the Honduran Army took place on 29 April against the border post of El Espino. A mortar was fired at that position but failed to cause any damage.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry informed the Honduran Foreign Secretariat that it viewed "with deep concern" these actions that come at a time when "Nicaragua is the victim of a large-scale counterrevolutionary offensive."

Also tonight, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry protested to the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry about new attacks against Nicaragua "from Costa Rican territory." It pointed out that one of the attacks was carried out against the area known as El Castillo, where one soldier was killed and five others were wounded.

The Sandinist authorities insisted on "the need" for the government of President Luis Alberto Monge to "put a halt to these actions" which "jeopardize" Costa Rica's neutrality policy that was proclaimed by the authorities of that country.

NUNEZ CRITICIZES C.A. COUNTRIES' PROPOSAL

PA300205 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] During a press conference held in Mexico City yesterday, State Council President Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez said that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Contadora Group to accomplish its peace plan for Central America because the United States refuses to suspend the mining of Nicaraguan ports or to show interest in negotiations.

Nunez also asserted that the proposal presented this week by Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras imposes conditions unacceptable for Nicaragua and endangers the success of the meeting of Contadora foreign ministers to be held in Panama City tomorrow, Monday.

Commander Nunez indicated that the document signed by these countries -- Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Honduras -- not only surprised Nicaragua but the Contadora Group as well, because there existed a tacit accord not to publicize the security topics discussed by the committee. The proposal includes arms limitation, withdrawal of military advisers and publication of each country's arms inventory, as well as domestic elections with the participation of what they have called [word indistinct] armed opposition.

Commander Nunez maintained that the Central American nations, which are allies of Washington, have thus shown that they are not willing to help Contadora in any manner whatsoever, and that they do not enjoy any type of independence from Washington.

Nunez also remarked that in order to overcome the current impasse in Central America, additional efforts will have to be made, both bilaterally and multilaterally. These efforts will have to be added to the Contadora peace effort to prevent further deterioration of the situation in the region.

In addition, Commander Nunez condemned the U.S. position to not acknowledge the decision of the International Court of Justice at the Hague because the court's action has shown a regrettable lack of awareness of the principles of the U.S. people and nation.

Commander Nunez stressed that it is most shameful that Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica appear as U.S. champions by asking that Nicaragua be sanctioned also if the court decides to sanction the United States.

Commander Nunez analyzed his visit to Mexico and asserted that his trip's objectives were to intensify parliamentary relations between the two countries, denounce the economic (?pressures) imposed on Nicaragua through the mining of its ports, and report on the progress of the electoral process in Nicaragua. These three objectives were fully accomplished, and we returned to Managua very satisfied, Commander Nunez concluded.

HIGH COURT JUDGES ON MINING, PASTORAL LETTER

PA272248 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Apr 84

["Direct Line" phone-in program with guests Supreme Court Magistrates Dr Santiago Rivas and Dr Rodolfo Robelo and journalists Claudia Chamorro and Javier Hernandez Bustamante with an unidentified moderator -- live]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] Dr Robelo and Dr Rivas, I would like to begin tonight's dialogue by asking you about an obligatory topic: The terrorist activities (?currently being staged) off our coasts and along our border, sponsored by the Reagan administration. As jurists (?who understand) the law and as political leaders, how do you view this activity?

[Unidentified speaker] It is regrettable that a small country with few resources like Nicaragua should be attacked in such a bestial manner by the counterrevolution. This would not be so bad if this counterrevolution were not receiving direct aid from the most powerful country in the world. This is what any Nicaraguan whose heart is in the right place must repudiate. It is regrettable that a very powerful country, the world's first power, should give aid to counterrevolutionary elements so they may continue bleeding this unfortunate country, which above all needs peace in order to develop.

[Moderator] I don't know whether you would agree, but it seems to me that, in general, the international reaction in Europe, Latin America, and the rest of the world is completely unfavorable to the Reagan administration, and therefore favorable to Nicaragua's cause. How do you feel about this?

[Unidentified speaker] This is a natural and logical reaction: Sympathy for the weak. When the weak are attacked by an individual (?or a) state, as is now the case with Nicaragua, [words indistinct] major world power and richest country, it is logical that, as a result of a certain humanity, this should elicit the sympathy of tne peoples (?who see) the attacked (?as a) small, poor, and weak country.

[Moderator] We will now hear a question by journalist Claudia Chamorro, of (?Radio Sandino's) press department.

[Chamorro] [Words indistinct] from the legal standpoint how do you view the charge that Nicaragua took to The Hague tribunal with regard to the CIA mercenaries' mining of our ports, and the U.S. stand refusing to acknowledge the jurisdication of The Hague?

[Rivas] Just as individuals involved in conflicts submit their differences to the regular courts [words indistinct] so as not to take justice into their own hands when conflicts emerge among nations, they too submit these differences to international courts like The Hague. Nicaragua has made charges in connection with the U.S. Government's mining of its ports. The U.S. Government, however, has expressed a reservation, announcing that for a period of 2 years it will not acknowledge the jurisdiction of this tribunal. If this case it to be handled by The Hague -- as will now be the case -- there won't be any coercive power to enforce whatever sentence is handed down. This is merely a moral issue. There can't be any coercive means because there is no higher tribunal or ultranational body to enforce fulfillment of the sentence.

[Moderator] Journalist Javier Hernandez Bustamante will now ask a question.

[Hernandez Bustamante] This topic has been widely discussed nationwide: The bishops' most recent pastoral letter. As political leaders, both Dr Rivas and Dr Robelo, what is your view of this widely questioned letter, which, it is felt, endorses the aggressive and criminal U.S. policy against our country?

[Robelo] I don't like it. I am a politician [words indistinct] and as such, with the full endorsement of my party's National Directorate, I said in an interview held during a trip that some of our companeros made abroad, that if there were to be a national dialogue, that national dialogue should involve those who were in Nicaragua. I think I am thus answering your question because I believe that those Nicaraguans who remains in Nicaragua -- regardless of the ideological tendencies they might profess -- living within the national community and participating in the active life as part of this Nicaraguan society, they are the people who should be heard.

SELA SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT, CONDEMNS MINING

PA282117 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Caracas -- The 25 SELA member countries have unanimously asserted their support for the Nicaraguan Government against the mining of Nicaraguan ports and demanded an immediate halt to these actions that threaten Latin America.

The statement was approved yesterday at the fourth special meeting of the Latin American Council, the highest SELA organization. The solidarity with Nicaragua and against those responsible for the mining of Nicaraguan ports was considered a categorical rejection of the aggressive and interventionist policy carried out by the U.S. Government in Central America.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL LEADER ON PORT MINING

PA282107 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Telephone interview with Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, vice president of the Socialist International for Latin America, from Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pena Gomez] I do not think the U.S. power circles are interested in a peaceful solution, or even in an electoral solution, which they have so often demanded, since they have even denounced the Nicaraguan Government's alleged lack of interest in an election. Naturally, the intensification of the U.S. military presence merely reinforces the Americans' lack of faith in peaceful solutions. I do not think that the Americans are interested in an electoral solution.

I believe that any time a country, in this case Nicaragua, offers an electoral solution -- and the Sandinists in power are offering facilities so the parties can carry out their activities -- the opportunity must be seized. There are countries like Haiti, Chile, and Uruguay where no such facilities are offered. The fact that the United States has shown no interest in an electoral solution proves that it favors some other type of solution. Naturally, this will have repercussions inside Nicaragua because those political currents that more or less follow the guidelines set by the leading U.S. political forces will not participate in the process. This will pose serious risks because after the elections are held, the legitimacy of their results will be questioned.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Pena Gomez, how would you describe the mining of the ports and the Nicaraguan charge at The Hague?

[Pena Gomez] We have very vigorously condemned the mining of the ports. The Socialist International has condemned it as well. It is an illegal action that violates international law.

[Reporter] A last question before ending this interview: Could you say something about the most recent incidents in the Dominican Republic?

[Pena Gomez] The incidents here in the Dominican Republic resulted from decisions that the Dominican Government had to adopt because of an agreement reached with the IMF. The prices of various staples were excessively raised, but no general wage increase was implemented. The latter measure had been demanded by the country's trade unions, including those that follow the orientation of the Dominican Revolutionary Party.

Yesterday, the presidents of the two chambers and the leaders of our parties held a very fruitful meeting with the country's union leaders, and it was agreed that congressional support would be given to the workers' three major demands.

The workers have announced they will resume work and the situation has returned to normal here in the Dominican Republic.

FSLN'S LOPEZ ON UPCOMING LISBON CONFERENCE

PA302241 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Julio Lopez, chief of the FSLN's International Relations Department, who heads the Nicaraguan delegation to an international conference on Nicaragua and for peace in Central America, has said: We are going to Lisbon to explain the situation of interventionist war that the United States has imposed on Nicaragua and to call for a mobilization that can confront and resist this policy of the Ronald Reagan administration. At that important international event, we will support the peace proposal presented by the Nicaraguan Government and the FSLN for a solution to this war situation and to the Central American crisis.

This conference will be held 3-6 May in Lisbon with the participation of more than 300 delegates of nongovernmental organizations, regional organizations, and political forces from all over the world. The conference was convened by a working group created in Geneva, Switzerland, in December last year, during the nongovernmental organizations conference held to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights.

CORDOVA RIVAS DISCUSSES ELECTIONS, FOREIGN DEBT

PA300411 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Government Junta, yesterday said that all of us should get involved in politics. He expressed his appreciation for his reception by Dr Sergio Escoto Saenz in (Cedro Galan) on the road to Leon. Cordova Rivas stressed that it is the will of the FSLN and the Government Junta that the November elections be precise, free, and honest so that the people can vote for whichever party they want with no pressure.

[Begin Cordova Rivas recording -- in progress] ... through election. I believe that the most unfair thing a citizen can do is not to participate in politics and not to vote in the election. It doesn't matter who the people vote for, be it the independent parties, the FSLN, the Popular Social Christian Party, the Democratic Conservative party. What counts is that the people vote. Let it not be said again in this country -- as many people said who rode in Mercedes Benz cars, lived on the hills, had villas at the resorts -- I will not get involved in politics. What scoundrels! While enjoying the situation and this country's system, they insisted on saying: I don't get involved in politics. [end recording]

Cordova Rivas said that the next Nicaraguan Government should decree a moratorium on interest on the foreign debt. He stressed that to the subjugated countries of the Third World the payment of foreign debt principal is like a dream due to the conditions imposed on international loans. Regarding the 4 November elections, Cordova Rivas said that we should all get involved in politics.

OFFICIAL RETURNS FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

PA281555 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] After a nearly 2-month tour of the socialist nations of Europe and Asia, Socorro Galan, the secretary general of the Nicaraguan Association of Friendship With Socialist Countries [ANAPS], confirmed their full solidarity with the just cause of the Nicaraguan people.

Galan said that during her visit to 10 socialist nations she participated in several acts commemorating the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the general of free men, Augusto Cesar Sandino. She added that there were other activities being prepared to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution.

She also noted that during her stay in the USSR she was able to confirm ample solidarity with our people. In addition, they donated audiovisiual equipment, a photographic laboratory, and a number of air conditioners. During her visit to Czechoslovakia, Cuba, and Hungary, she signed several cooperation agreements, Galan said, adding that 50 Cuban artists will visit Nicaragua on the fifth anniversary of the revolutionary victory and will make several presentations in Managua and other departments.

PSC DEMANDS DIALOGUE IN NOTE TO ORTEGA

PA280453 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Through its president Agustin Jarquin, the Social Christian Party [PSC] yesterday sent a note to Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Covernment of National Reconstruction, reiterating its demand for a dialogue to increase civic strength and overcome the serious problems we are confronting. The note also said that the PSC proposed a reconciliation plan in November 1983, while the party signed the document entitled "A Step Toward Democracy" with the other members of the coordinating board in December of the same year. In addition, the PSC members announced that they will commemorate the Labor Day on 1 May with a mass to be held at a local church. Other unions and political parties will also commemorate Labor Day.

PPSC LEADER CRITICAL OF BISHOPS' PASTORAL LETTER

PA302217 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Mauricio Diaz Davila, secretary general of the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], has discussed the pastoral letter recently published by the Episcopal Conference.

[Begin Diaz Davila recording] Personally, I believe the pastoral letter suffers from a lack of credibility regarding some aspects of this country's history. In addition, we believe that the release of this letter in the current circumstances is equivalent to a virtual declaration of war by the pastors against the Nicaraguan Government because -- seen in the context of the situation that Nicaragua is passing through, in the framework of the negotiations being carried out to find a negotiated political solution for the Central American crisis, and in light of the charges submitted by Nicaragua at the International Court of Justice at The Hague against the United States -- this letter tries to call into question and block our government's efforts to find a negotiated solution through peaceful means.

Furthermore, we believe the letter is lacking in other areas. For example, the letter describes our education as materialistic. This reveals a lack of knowledge of our reality, especially regarding religious education in Nicaragua, where more than 60 percent of education is Catholic. The state even [word indistinct] part of this education. This fact, in addition to the charge that consciences are being undermined, as the bishops say, leaves them in a rather weak position. They could not bring themselves to acknowledge what is really occurring in Nicaragua, for example, the war. As long as the bishops do not take a stand on this and go on unilaterally criticizing and accusing this government, they will continue to lose moral force.

Public opinion, and particularly that of Christians in this country, will gradually become aware of how the church is slowly penetrating territory that belongs to politics, even party politics. [end recording]

EPS KILLER OF 12 SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS

PA272108 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Gregorio de Jesus Marquez Blanco, the driver of a military truck who rammed a religious procession while drunk, killing 12 people on the Chinandega-Somotillo highway, has been sentenced to 30 years in jail, suspension of his civil rights, and a dishonorable discharge. Sublieutenants Roger Omar Gomez Rivera and Virgilio Erasmo Velasquez Calero, Army officers who accompanied Marquez Blanco on that tragic day, were sentenced to 8 years in jail and also to the suspension of their civil rights and public dishonorable discharge.

The Armed Forces Judge Advocate Office headquartered in Chinandega opened a military court-martial against those responsible for this regrettable and reprehensible action immediately after the tragedy occurred. Defense Minister Commander Humberto Ortega had instructed the Army authorities to punish in an exemplary manner those guilty of this incident, which cost the lives of 12 people. This was done on 25 April, when the convictions were returned.

CONTRAS RAID TOWN NEAR YALI, BURN ENABAS STORE

PA272303 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Thirty heroic militiamen fought against more than 400 counterrevolutionary mercenaries during an 8-hour clash at the village of La Rica, 30 km from Yali, Jinotega, on Monday, EL NUEVO DIARIO reported in today's issue.

At La Rica, the mercenaries looted all homes and set fire to five houses, as well as to an ENABAS [National Enterprise for Staple Foods] store. As a result of this criminal action, more than 7,000 people have been left without food supplies.

At El Zapote farm cooperative near Yali, 12 militiamen bravely confronted some 80 contras to prevent the contras, from seizing the place, which shows that the self-defense of the peasant communities in the north is guaranteed. The criminal attack on the El Zapote cooperative resulted in losses of over 1 million cordobas. As a consequence of the latest counterrevolutionary actions in Yali, 25 primary schools have been shut down, affecting 1,315 children.

BRIEFS

PLO DONATION -- Mauricio Valenzuela, guerrilla commander and construction minister, has received a donation of $30,000 worth of equipment from the PLO to help reconstruct Nicaragua's bridges. The donation was delivered by Marwan Tahbub, PLO ambassador to Nicaragua, who stressed the solidarity between the Palestinian and Nicaraguan peoples in their struggles against North American imperialism. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Apr 84 p 5 PA]

CDR'S ACOSTA CALLS HUAMBO ATTACK ABOMINABLE

FL301616 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] In the town of Perico, Matanzas Province, Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Politburo, has ratified the decision of all CDR [Committee for the Defense of the Revolution] members to defend the revolution whatever the consequences, wherever the party and Fidel may order.

During the national act of revolutionary reaffirmation [acto nacional de reafirmacion revolucionaria], the national CDR coordinator described as abominable and savage the attack perpetrated against the Cuban civilian internationalist workers in the Angolan province of Huambo. He also stressed the role played by the Cuban people in the strengthening of the people's guard force [guardia popular] and in the construction of defense zones.

During the ceremony, the coordinator of the town of Perico gave Armando Acosta a check for 1,200,000 pesos for the financing of the Territorial Troops Militia.

ETA MEMBERS ACCEPTED AT SPANISH ENVOY'S REQUEST

LD010900 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 1 May 84

[Text] This station has learned that thanks to the personal intervention Sunday in Havana of a special envoy from Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, the Cuban Government has agreed to receive the six members of the ETA terrorist organization who were expelled from French soil on 11 January and sent to Panama. According to statements made by the head of the Panamanian Armed Forces, Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega Moreno, the six ETA members -- Jose Luis Ansola, Jose Antonio Mugica, Jose Maria Larrechea, Jose Miguel Arrugaeta, Jesus Abrisketa, and Carlos Ibarguren -- will be transferred within a few hours to Havana on a special flight chartered by the Panamanian Government. For the moment, then, it is to Cuba that the six ETA members will be transferred.

GRANMA EDITORIAL REAFFIRMS INTERNATIONALISM

FL301436 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] GRANMA today published an editorial entitled Long Live International Labor Day. The first paragraph of the editorial says that once again, tomorrow, on 1 May, our hardworking communist people, in their combative march in Revolutionary Square, will reaffirm before the world their irrevocable decision to build socialism and their right to practice international solidarity with all brother nations defending their independence and struggling for economic and social development, and their inescapable historical commitment to reject all pressure, blackmail, aggression, and criminal acts that U.S. imperialism and its henchmen may promote to humble the Cuban revolution.

GRANMA newspaper then says: Our people are deeply revolutionary, not intimidated by threats or barbaric, brutal, terrorist acts against Cuban civilian internationalist workers such as the one perpetrated in Huambo, Angola, by Yankee imperialists and racist South Africans.

In its editorial today, GRANMA discusses how these 25 years have served to consolidate the power of the Cuban working class, discrediting reactionary geopolitical theories that reject the possibility that liberation movements can be successful over imperialism. GRANMA stresses the fact that the total of Cuban successes cannot be demolished in spite of the treacherous mafia-like core of imperialism.

GRANMA describes as absurd the policy of the present U.S. Administration and says that its terrorism condemns it to isolation because it cannot find support even in governments allied to the White House. But it is not only becoming isolated -- as occurred in the case of the mining of Nicaraguan ports by the CIA -- but, as has been recognized by realistic U.S. politicians, such actions stir up hatred for the U.S. Government.

GRANMA adds that despite everything, Cuba and its revolution are stronger than ever. They are bulwarks of socialism and internationalism located a short 90 miles from the most powerful nation in the world. And tomorrow -- International Labor Day -- the world will once again be able to observe in Revolutionary Square a part of our communist people with all that is implied regarding attitude, conscience, generosity, patriotism, internationalism, and firmness, such a beautiful word!

Everyone: Participate tomorrow in the combative people's march in Revolutionary Square. Long live International Labor Day!

U.S. TO UNDERTAKE 'CRUSADE' AGAINST TERRORISM

FL302234 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1928 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Following the model of an Israeli action plan, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has ordered the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency to recruit more than 800 secret agents in the world's conflict areas.

With a budget of $1.5 billion for their so-called foreign operations, the U.S. intelligence services must undertake a limitless crusade against what the head of state calls terrorism. Known details of that broad plan indicate that the CIA will even use personnel capable of getting involved in direct sabotage actions, such as is taking place in the so-called covert operations aimed at overthrowing Nicaragua's people's government.

CIA Director William Casey had to appear before the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee last week to try to calm the outraged legislators.

U.S. ACCUSED AT THE HAGUE OF ATTACKING NICARAGUA

PA280445 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] Nicaragua today accused the United States before the International Court of Justice at The Hague of attacking Nicaraguan territory, and requested the application of provisional measures to protect its sovereignty.

The UN's highest juridical organization has completed the first session of its tribunal which had been convened on Nicaragua's request. The second session will be held next Friday.

Carlos Arguello, Nicaraguan ambassador to the Netherlands, mentioned official documents proving that Washington uses force against Nicaragua, and referred to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's declarations to the U.S. Congress regarding the CIA's activities against Nicaragua. Nicaragua accused Washington of training, arming, and financing mercenaries; attacking its territory; mining ports; and carrying out air, sea, and land aggressions against this Central American country.

The highest tribunal of the international community will first consider an urgent motion forbidding the United States to continue attacking Nicaragua. The Nicaraguan demand is being defended by Abram Chayes, former adviser of the U.S. State Department, who assumed the responsibility of the defense because he deemed Managua's reasons soundly justified, according to his declaration at The Hague.

Said Involved in Contra Actions

PA302004 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The mercenary forces have again failed in their latest and largest counter-revolutionary offensive which they launched against Nicaragua last week at the border areas and other regions in the country. At San Juan del Norte, a small locality on the Atlantic coast, a few kilometers from the border with Costa Rica, a garrison of 78 Nicaraguans heroically fought against a much larger and more heavily equipped mercenary force which was attempting to establish a counterrevolutionary government there. Hours after the attack, the nearly 500 mercenaries led by chieftain Eden Pastora fled toward the border with Sandinist People's Army reinforcements in pursuit.

This confirmed the charge by the Nicaraguan Government that this was only a propaganda maneuver by imperialism to try to divert attention from the political defeat suffered by the U.S. Government through its direct involvement in acts of aggression against Nicaragua. As a result of the defeat suffered by the counterrevolution, new revelations about Washington's ties with the groups of mercenaries who attack Nicaragua came to light.

THE SUNDAY TIMES admits that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency controls actions against the Sandinist government. This North American weekly [as heard] has reported that dozens of CIA agents have arrived in Costa Rica over the last few weeks under the cover of the U.S. Embassy and private companies to direct the actions of the counter-revolutionary groups operating against Nicaragua. It notes that the general head-quarters of these operation is located in a fortified house on a hill in the San Jose district of Ezcazu.

The increasing U.S. participation in the attacks on Nicaragua is an irrefutable fact. THE SUNDAY TIMES asserts that the revelations that the North American CIA took part in the mining of Nicaraguan ports and in the attack on the oil installations at Corinto only represents the visible tip of the iceberg of Washington's intervention in the Central American conflict. This is the reason for the assertion that Nicaragua is facing a war launched against it by the most powerful capitalist power in the world.

CONDEMNATION OF NICARAGUAN PORT MINING CONTINUES

Socialists Rap Act

FL270134 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] In Denmark the Socialist International has condemned the U.S. mining of Nicaraguan ports, describing it as an act of aggression. The executive bureau gave its support to the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

Meanwhile, anti-Sandinist mercenaries are holding 12 reservists from the Nicaraguan People's Army [Ejercito Popular de Nicaragua] who were kidnapped days ago. The mercenaries openly operate in Costa Rica and Honduras, backed by the CIA.

Officials, Media Cited

PA282059 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The Portuguese Communist Party has condemned in Lisbon the mining of Nicaraguan ports by CIA agents.

Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has asserted in Caracas that the undeclared war against Nicaragua and the mining of its ports is a brutal violation of international law. He added that such acts increase the tension in Central America.

During an interview granted to the Soviet news agency TASS, Gonzalo Barrios, president of the Venezuelan Democratic Action Party, has condemned the U.S. terrorist aggression against Nicaragua and said the attacks by counterrevolutionary bands organized by Washington are criminal actions.

The opposition People's National Party of Jamaica has urged its government to publicly reject the mining of Nicaraguan ports. It termed embarrassing the silence maintained in this regard by Edward Seaga's cabinet.

The GDR newspaper TRIBUNE has said the placement of mines in Nicaraguan ports proves the advisability of the recent Soviet proposals to hold talks regarding the limitation of naval activities and weapons systems.

TANA PREPARES NICARAGUAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PA281804 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Apr 84

[Text] The Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America, TANA, wants to turn the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist Revolution's victory into a continental celebration and a massive drive in support of the heroic Nicaraguan people. This statement was made to this radio station by Freddy Balzan, executive secretary of the regional organization.

He said that while U.S. imperialism launches its mercenaries against Nicaragua, Managua is preparing to celebrate an international festival of popular music; it will allow dozens of artists to state their active support for the Sandinist cause.

Balzan asserted in his statements that TANA is preparing to organize a third continental trial against U.S. President Ronald Reagan's aggressive policy. This time the trial will be held in Caracas, Venezuela. The previous trials were held in Panama and Ecuador.

NICARAGUAN LEADERS SCORE PASTORAL LETTER

PA282005 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has stated that the latest pastoral letter issued by the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua was calculated, studied, and guided by the CIA. We do not doubt that some Nicaraguan bishops have received instructions from the U.S. Embassy in Managua, said Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction during the radio-television program Face the People.

Daniel Ortega stressed the coincidences among right-wing political parties, the private sector, and the Episcopal Conference in their attitude against the revolution. This coincidence, he asserted, is not casual or innocent; instead, it represents a part of the aggressive plans that U.S. imperialism has assigned to these forces inside Nicaragua.

Sergio Ramirez, member of the government junta, likewise scored the Nicaraguan bishops' pastoral letter -- which was published at a time when the country is victim of the largest military aggression ever organized by the CIA. Ramirez pointed out that while the mining of Nicaraguan ports has provoked a general rejection in the United States, the Nicaraguan bishops instead of adopting a patriotic stand, issue a document completely opposed to national interests and advocating President Ronald Reagan's aggressive policy. The pastoral letter, he said, is another mine, just like the one placed by the CIA in the Nicaraguan ports, because the document tries to sink the ship of the Sandinist revolution.

OFFICIAL NICARAGUAN DELEGATION VISITS MEXICO

PA281940 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council; Commander Henry Ruiz, Nicaraguan planning minister; and Miguel D'Escoto, Nicaraguan foreign minister, have met in Mexico City with Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda. Although information regarding what was discussed has not been disclosed, it is known that the Central American situation and U.S. aggressions against Nicaraguan were discussed.

Carlos Nunez also met with members of the foreign affairs committees of the Mexican Senate and Chamber of Deputies where he said that the FSLN's National Directorate will hold elections in Nicaragua despite provocations by the enemy who is attempting to stop the electoral process. Nunez said that the flame of war will envelop Central American if the Contadora Group fails in its attempts and expressed his trust that the International Court of Justice in The Hague will declare illegal the U.S. actions against the Nicaraguan people.

Accuses U.S. of Terrorism

PA301817 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] During his visit to Mexico City, Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, has accused the U.S. Government of unleashing state terrorism against his country. He added that U.S. military maneuvers in Central America are indirectly hampering Contadora Group efforts.

Nunez said: We are facing a combined escalation of counterrevolutionary forces operating from Honduras and Costa Rica, together with a diplomatic and propagandistic campaign aimed at diverting international attention from the mining of Nicaraguan ports, which has cost Nicaragua more than $200 million in damages.

Nunez added that instead of promoting peace and dialogue in Central America, the United States is trying to intimidate the Salvadoran revolutionary movement with demonstrations of force, and at the same time is trying to create conditions for a direct intervention in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

It was reported in Managua that counterrevolutionary forces that infiltrated from Honduras suffered eight casualties during a clash near La Paz, in northern Jinotega Department. It had been previously reported that 120 counterrevolutionary men have died during clashes between 16-23 April in sectors in northern and southern Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, it was learned that counterrevolutionary bands murdered eight civilians in northern and southern Zelaya, and that these same groups caused damages estimated at $80,000.

NICARAGUAN PEASANTS BENEFIT FROM LAND REFORM

PA302144 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Another 1,200 hectares of land were turned over to the Nicaraguan peasants who are grouped into cooperatives in the village of El Viejo, in Chinandega Department, as part of the land reform that is taking place in that Central American country.

Salvador Mayorga, the Nicaraguan deputy minister of agriculture, cattle development, and agrarian reform, stated at the ceremony at which the peasants received their tracts that more than 30,000 peasant families have benefitted from the land reform since the triumph of the revolution in 1979. He said that before 19 July, the fifth anniversary of the triumph of the Sandinist popular revolution, more than 700,000 hectares of productive farmland will be turned over to the peasants. He added that the land reform has even extended into the war zones, where the peasants till and defend their lands with guns in their hands.

COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT DEALS WITH CONTRAS

FL271914 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] In San Jose it has been learned that the Government of Costa Rica found itself obligated to renew its proclamation of neutrality and to take an interest in the activities of the counterrevolutionaries. This is due in part to the scandal that occurred when the public learned that the CIA was bribing high Costa Rican officials to support the counterrevolutionaries who are attacking Nicaragua. It is also due to the heavy blows inflicted by the Sandinists on the armed groups that attack the country.

Almost simultaneously with these events, Costa Rica decided to dismantle a communications center that the counterrevolutionary group Democratic Alliance [Alianza Democratica] maintained on the outskirts of San Jose and another in northern Costa Rica. That measure left the anti-Sandinists in a difficult situation and a radio station did not discard the possibility that the traitor Eden Pastora would have to suspend his aggressive activities.

Gutierrez Cited

PA300000 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Report by Rafael Ugalde, PRELA correspondent in San Jose]

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has said in San Jose that the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] can continue having its offices in this capital. In a statement today to the newspaper LA REPUBLICA, he said that the Costa Rican Government has no interest in persecuting ARDE and insisted that Costa Rica offers ample room for all sectors -- but not room to make war.

The main offices of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution here were raided by agents of the Intelligence and Security Directorate [DIS], who arrested at least 12 anti-Sandinists. The latest DIS investigations revealed that a luxurious residence in the town of Escazu, some 3 km from San Jose, used as an information office, was also being used as an arms depot. The weapons confiscated from ARDE at the residence included at least 15 rifles and an M-79 grenade launcher.

Deputy Security Minister Johnny Campos described the discovery as very serious and announced that the ministry is studying the legal measures to be taken in this case. He noted that the weapons were surprisingly modern, showing the abuse of political asylum committed by the counterrevolution.

LA REPUBLICA reported that the weapons were hidden in the trees around the residence. The estate was carefully searched by DIS agents, after which it was returned to the ARDE representatives here. Besides the modern war materiel, the DIS agents also discovered a complex communications system, presumably used by ARDE leader Eden Pastora in his harangues against Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan businessman Alfonso Robelo Callejas, one of the many ARDE representatives here, said that he knew nothing of the reports on the seizure of the weapons. Robelo disappeared from this capital for a few hours, and all efforts by the press to locate him were unsuccessful.

In a lengthy interview offered to LA NACION at an undisclosed location, Robelo promised to continue the fight against Nicaragua despite the Costa Rican police actions. He admitted that the closing of the communications facility had forced a temporary suspension of activities, particularly in the vicinity of the San Juan River, on the border. Robelo publicly admitted that Costa Rican territory had been used as an operations center of the counterrevolution. In fact, he did not discard the possibility of using as communications centers other countries where legislation is not as strict.

SALVADORAN REBEL'S PRAVDA REMARKS, BISHOP CITED

PA302127 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The Salvadoran electoral farce organized by the United States at a cost of $10.5 million turned out to be a total failure due to the Salvadoran genocidal regime's lack of popular support. Mario Aguinada, member of the FMLN-FDR political-diplomatic commission made this comment for the Soviet daily PRAVDA. Aguinada said that the White House favorite Jose Napoleon Duarte, was unable to obtain the necessary majority votes, despite all kinds of fraudulent actions such as distributing unused ballots resulting from the absence of 900,000 people who had to leave the country and of more than 40,000 persons who had been murdered. Aguinada also stressed the election's lack of participation by the population in liberated areas.

In a message for Salvadoran workers on the occasion of Workers' Day, the Salvadoran Catholic Church expressed regret that in addition to the violence striking El Salvador unemployment has made things even worse and condemned the emergence of another death squad, the self-styled Suicide Command. In his Sunday homily, San Salvador Auxiliary Bishop Msgr Gregorio Rosas Chavez said the threats by the Suicide Command are cynical and irresponsible, and asked himself: Who has given these and other death squads rights over the lives of Salvadorans?

SALVADORAN REBEL ACTIONS, ELECTORAL LAW VIEWED

PA301551 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] The FMLN station Radio Venceremos has reported that rebel forces inflicted 30 casualties on government troops and dislodged them from important positions near the city of Osicala in the Department of Morazan. The clashes occurred last Friday when the insurgents attacked government troops in El Coyol Hill, the Osicala cemetery and (La Curcuncha) Hill, killing 10 soldiers and wounding 20 others.

Meanwhile, according to reports from San Salvador, FMLN urban commandos occupied five radio stations in this capital to broadcast a message on the occasion of the International Workers' Day to be celebrated on 1 May.

On another subject, the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly decided to extend the state of siege imposed in this Central American country, which means that the election runoff on 6 May will take place under martial law.

Meanwhile, in political circles within the Salvadoran tyranny contradictions are continuing to grow because of a recent presidential veto to a reform imposed by the ultrarightist wing in the legislature calling for the elimination of voting lists. This measure, according to the followers of Christian Democratic, PDC, leader Jose Napoleon Duarte, would allow the fraudulent manipulation of votes by supporters of the ultrarightist Roberto D'Aubuisson. However, political observers believe that there will be fraud with or without electoral lists, as both the PDC and the ultra-reactionary Nationalist Republican Alliance will spare no effort to win the presidency.

113 UNION MEMBERS KILLED IN EL SALVADOR IN 1983

FL262030 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] (Cristina Marvin), European representative of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Trade Union Federation, today said in Brussels that 113 Salvadoran trade union members were killed last year and more than 500 are still under arrest. Speaking at a press conference, (Marvin) described the serious problems faced by the Salvadoran union movement and denounced the repression practised in different sectors against union members.

NO POLICY CHANGE AFTER HONDURAN MILITARY SHAKEUP

PA301535 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] The changes that took place in the Honduran military leadership on 31 March have not represented any change in the repressive policy of that government or in that Central American country's close ties with the U.S. Government. Honduras is still playing the role of a spearhead in the aggressive U.S. plans against the people of the region. The replacement of Gustavo Alvarez with General Walter Lopez as commander of the Honduran Armed Forces represents a continuation of the policy that the White House has drawn for Honduras. This was confirmed by General Paul Gorman, commander of the U.S. Army's Southern Command, during his hurried visit to Honduras on 4 April.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ARMED FORCES ON STATE OF ALERT

PA301722 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] The Dominican Republic's Armed Forces have improvised strategic camps in numerous parts of Santo Domingo, which has been under military control following the popular demonstrations against the hike in the price of staples.

According to observers, these camps seem to have been installed to permit the Armed Forces to act quickly during the demonstrations expected to take place this coming Saturday on the occasion of the anniversary of the U.S. military intervention of the Dominican Republic in 1965. It is also believed that these strategic camps have been installed in view of the expected actions to commemorate the International Workers' Day, since Dominican trade unions have announced that they will hold demonstrations against the measures imposed by the IMF in that country.

Meanwhile, it was reported that there is a tense calm in Santo Domingo, and that the number of dead, injured, and arrested during last week's incidents has not yet been determined. The Dominican Human Rights Committee has said that the incidents resulted in 200 dead.

MANY WOUNDED, ARRESTED IN BRAZILIAN PROTEST

PA282013 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] A Brazilian police cavalry platoon was sent out to face hundreds of persons who gathered in Sao Paolo to protest the rejection by Congress of the amendment presented by the opposition to establish direct presidential elections in 1985. Witnesses stated that the police repression resulted in many wounded and that many demonstrators were arrested.

Meanwhile, the censorship imposed Monday on radio and television stations was lifted. The opposition interpreted the censorship as a government strategy to prevent the Congress [passage indistinct].

CHILEAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES 1 MAY CELEBRATION

PA281252 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Apr 84

[Text] On Wednesday the Chilean regime's militarized police stopped approximately 100 opposition reporters from demonstrating in Santiago, Chile, after they had ended a 24-hour fast in protest of the censorship imposed by the Pinochet tyranny. According to witnesses, during the incidents that occurred following the intervention of the police, Gabriel Figuero, a journalist for the daily HOY, was arrested.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the Chilean military regime has authorized the National Command of Workers, CNT, to hold a demonstration on 1 May and to hold an assembly forbidden 10 days ago which was called to agree on a general strike against Augustc Pinochet's dictatorship. The CNT yesterday said that with or without government authorization, International Labor Day would be celebrated in Chile with a large demonstration.

DYNAMITE ATTACKS, STRIKE CALL NOTED IN CHILE

PA292304 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Text] Two dynamite attacks reportedly have occurred in Valparaiso and Vina del Mar. The attacks did not result in any victims but did cause considerable damage. According to information released by the Chilean police, one of the devices exploded in the basement of a cracker-manufacturing plant in Valparaiso, while another bomb exploded on one of Vina del Mar's main streets. Last Friday several dynamite charges exploded in six Valparaiso and Vina del Mar banks, wounding one person and causing considerable damage. So far no organization has claimed responsibility for these attacks. It has also been reported that the Chilean National Workers Command has called for a general strike. The date for this strike will be determined within 90 days by a council of the various unions.

JORGE MAY DAY ADDRESS NOTES CRISIS, URGES UNITY

FL010137 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 May 84

[Speech by President Salvador Jorge Blanco on the occasion of May Day; place not given -- live]

[Text] [In progress] ...occupy a prominent position in historic events. The Dominican Republic traditionally commemorates this date with full awareness of its significance and the primary importance of Dominican workers in the national development, in the maintenance of our democratic institutions in whose framework of freedom, pluralism, and human dignity we ought to forge the system of social justice which is the fundamental goal of all workers in the world.

Today the commemoration of International Labor Day takes place during an exceptional time for our country as a result of a serious international economic crisis which acutely affects the underdeveloped countries. This reality, which has resulted in tragic events which we painfully lament, which has cast many families and the Dominican democracy into mourning, and which should never be repeated, makes this day a propitious occasion for reflection and reaffirmation of our commitment to seek solutions to the problems affecting our population.

The government of national concentration spares no effort in the urgent adoption of priority measures to eliminate or alleviate the more widespread or pressing effects of the grave economic crisis. In that great task, all classes and sectors of the national community should join us. Their understanding and contribution should be above all rivalries which distort and hinder the dialogue of peace and harmony demanded by the Dominican present reality.

Aware of my responsibility as leader and main forger of the directives for a better destiny for all Dominican people, I feel this occasion is most fitting to ratify the irrevocable will of the government of national concentration to continue to listen to the demands of the forgotten working sectors of our population. These are the ones who suffer the most as a result of the economic and financial difficulties in which we find ourselves because of unrestrained consumerism and unprecedented debt, whose consequences we have to suffer with pain and sacrifice.

Under these circumstances, I wish to announce that I have adopted the following measures: In the labor field, I have promulgated Law No 207 of the Labor Code of Laws increasing payments to displaced workers after a period of 3 months of continuous work, and not 6 months as it was before -- this bill was submitted to the National Congress by the executive branch on 27 February 1984.

I have sent to the National Congress the following bills: a bill broadening coverage of social security, improving services, and providing payments to insured workers; a bill creating the Welfare Secretariat; a bill creating the labor courts and tribunals; a bill repealing Articles Nos 1659 to 1673 of the Civil Code of Laws prohibiting agreements on the sale of goods back to the vendor [pacto de retroventa], a tool of usury against the Dominican working class.

I have also sent to the National Congress the following international agreements: The first one deals with administration of work, duties, functions, and organizations; another one concerns professional orientation and development of human resources; and the final one is an agreement on protection against poisoning [word indistinct].

In connection with wage increases, we have met with our party's leaders and legislators, because the increases in wages must be based on the four tributary laws we submitted to Congress on 27 February. Nevertheless, this does not at all mean that any increase in established wages whose foundation resides on other tributary elements does not have our most decided support, which is why we are conducting the corresponding studies and consultations.

Also, the Secretariat of State for Public Health and Social Welfare has announced the first phase of a program to provide at low prices, through the special health fund created at our initiative, a group of 200 essential medicaments, a program which will be supervised by said secretariat and the Dominican Social Security Institute.

Now I will refer to social security programs for the benefit of the workers and needy sectors of our country. More than the impact of the price increases of consumer goods, which are not as great as interested sectors have tried to make them, one factor which causes indignation in the population is speculation by one sector of commerce. In order to combat this, we are undertaking a program of sales by mobile units to guarantee that rice, chicken, beans, sugar, spaghetti, cooking oil, milk, chocolate, oats, and other products may be purchased by the citizens with the lowest income. These units selling popular items will make daily rounds of the various suburbs of the capital.

In addition, we will increase the number of popular markets in the capital suburbs and will establish them for the first time in interior towns of the country. We will increase the number of outlets for the milk of the National Institute of Price Stabilization [INESPRE] with a price 10 cents per liter lower than at regular stores.

For the same purpose, we will initiate a program of sales at the garrisons of the Armed forces and the police, to whose members we are supplying basic products at the lowest prices.

I have issued orders to INESPRE to broaden the program of popular sales with the establishment of 80 new stores. It is good to know that 1,560,000 Dominicans will benefit from this program. Likewise, public servants will benefit from the expansion and strengthening of the sale program.

Shortly, the government will install a fish processing plant from which we will obtain cod, herring, sardines in oil and tomato sauce, fish meal, [word indistinct]. All these will be sold at a much lower price than we pay today.

In addition, we will grant more incentives to the agricultural sector with a government aid program that will enable it to obtain the resources for producing rice, milk, eggs, and all pastas to guarantee that these products will be sold to the consumers at the lowest price possible.

For the purpose of improving the lot of the medium level agricultural production sector, the government of national concentration will establish new alternatives of trade through direct sales to the consumer. On 26 May we will inaugurate the first great market of producers at San Martin Avenue and [words indistinct] to begin the program of popular sales. We wish to make it known that this program of social welfare is an initiative of the government of national concentration and is part of the government program of the Dominican Revolutionary Party.

In congratulating on May Day the Dominican workers who, with a great sense of dignity and democratic vocation, work in our factories and countryside, once more I ask all the Dominican people to unite with solidarity to overcome the adversities and suffering of these crucial moments, conscious that the difficult tests to which we have been subjected require unity and solidarity to triumph in the shortest period of time over all our difficulties, no matter now overwhelming they might seem to be. The government of national concentration has expressed its admiration and gratitude to all union leaders who, [words indistinct] constituting a valuable contribution to the strengthening of public peace, have canceled the workers' parade announced for May Day.

I wish to conclude by noting that the government which I have democratically shared and will continue to share with all national sectors as president of all Dominicans will not let up in its struggle -- within the limitations mentioned before, with additional concrete measures, and within the framework of our immortal democratic institutions -- for the people's demands which will insure their nourishment and health as well as others which will help in combating the worst of all ills of developing societies, the scourge of unemployment. We are fully aware that bread, health, education, freedom, democracy, and peace are indivisible and irreplaceable values. Let this date be a great moment for reflection but also for reinvigorating the harmonious, unifying, and constructive dialogue which should precede the invincible action of the peoples in bright moments of their history. Thank you very much.

UNIONS CANCEL MAY DAY PARADES, ANNOUNCE STRIKE

PA301704 Paris AFP in English 1606 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, April 30 (AFP) -- The five main trade unions of the Dominican Republic have announced the cancellation of tomorrow's parades marking the May Day workers' holiday, and are instead calling a symbolic six-hour strike. The general secretary of the most powerful union, the General Confederation of Labour, Julio de Pena Valdez, said on television last night that union leaders planned to cancel the parades "because of the militarisation of the capital." But the decision appears to be motivated at least in part by the fact that, despite the promises of President Jorge Blanco, the government had by today still not authorised any marches. The capital has been under strict military and police control since rioting erupted last Monday in response to price rises and the demands of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The cancellation of May Day parades may well help calm the current tense atmosphere, but Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, the capital's mayor and leader of the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party, said today that "fresh outbreaks of trouble could occur because the problems the country is facing do not have an immediate solution." "The Dominican Republic will have problems if the strong arm of this policeman, the IMF, tries to increase its demands," he said.

To Observe Mourning Day

FL302358 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2335 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] The Dominican Republic's trade unions today canceled their Labor Day parade for the Day of Mourning of 65 victims in last week's riots. The trade unions in a press release today urged the people of the Dominican Republic to stay indoors until noon tomorrow [words indistinct] the day of mourning. The unions said they will call a general strike against the government of President Salvador Jorge Blanco [word indistinct] raise the minimal salary, cancel the price increases, and break off talks with the IMF.

CUBA, USSR, LIBYA ADVISE CARIBBEAN EMBASSIES

PA301432 Paris AFP in Spanish 1416 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 30 Apr (AFP) -- The Soviet Union, Cuba, and Libya have instructed their respective embassies in the Caribbean region "not to make indiscreet statements" about the developments that led to the break in relations between Great Britain and Libya.

A responsible diplomatic source today gave indications about this warning, noting that both London and Tripoli consider the break an unfortunate incident which they hope to solve normally as soon as possible.

Libya has "people's offices" (embassies) in Cuba, Venezuela, Guyana, and Jamaica.

CARICOM COUNTRIES REPORT TRADE WITH UK

FL272351 Bridgetown CANA in English 2216 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 27 (CANA) -- The 13-member Caribbean Community (Caricom) increased the value of their exports to Britain in January and February by 1.4 million pounds sterling, latest statistics show.

The figures released here by the British High Commission show that for the two months exports to the U.K. stood at 51.9 million sterling compared with 50.5 million sterling for January and February of last year.

Caricom imports from Britain cost less during this period -- 72.4 million sterling compared with 107.1 million sterling in 1983, a decline of 34.7 million sterling.

Bahama's exports to the U.K. between January and February this year stood at 1.1 million sterling compared with 11.5 million sterling last year while imports were put at 12.3 million sterling against 1.9 million sterling in 1983.

Jamaica during the first two months of this year sold Britain 10.8 million sterling in goods compared with 11.3 sterling last year.

Antigua and Barbuda's exports to Britain for January and February this year stood at 212,000 sterling compared with 354,000 sterling in 1983 while imports were put at one million sterling against 1.8 million sterling in 1983.

Exports from St Kitts-Nevis to the U.K. reached 13,000 sterling compared with 6,000 sterling for the same period last year and imports from the U.K. were 631,000 sterling compared with 655,000 sterling last year.

Montserrat during the first two months of this year sold Britain 27,000 sterling in foods the same as in 1983. While imports for the same period were valued at 231,000 sterling compared with 430,000 sterling last year.

Barbados' exports to the U.K. during the first two months of this year stood at 218,000 sterling compared with 247,000 sterling last year while imports for the same period stood at 4.4 million sterling against 4.1 million sterling in 1983.

Sales from Trinidad and Tobago to Britain during January and February stood at 20.2 million sterling against 9.3 million sterling in 1983 and imports were 14.7 million sterling against 25 million sterling last year.

Guyana's exports to the U.K. during the first two months of 1984 stood at 10.5 million sterling compared with 9.5 million sterling last year while imports went from 1.8 million sterling last year to 1.5 million sterling this year.

CARICOM'S RAINFORD PREDICTS GOOD FUTURE

FL302151 Bridgetown CANA in English 1700 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 29 (CANA) -- Secretary-General Roberick Rainford says he detects a clear political will to make the Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) work.

Rainford made his remarks in CARICOM PERSPECTIVE, a publication of the Secretariat. He was commenting on January's crucial meeting of the Council of Ministers in Georgetown which looked at factors leading a contraction in intra-regional trade.

The secretary general said there was a clear "manifestation of political will to make the common market work, and it was gratifying to see this momentum followed up in another area when, immediately after the council meeting, Caricom ministers responsible for transportation met in St Lucia to deliberate and decide on vital issues in that particular area of co-operation in Caricom."

He said 1984 has started out on a note of serious attention by member states and "notwithstanding the pitfalls that undoubtedly lie ahead, this augurs well for what shall unfold during the year."

Rainford said the council meeting was a "major mile post on account of the frank and open manner in which delegations faced the fundamental problems affecting intra-regional trade. "For one thing, it was a matter of supreme importance that the regional public was able to see that no unwarranted obstacles stood in the way of the convening of the council," he added. "For another, the level of interest in this particular meeting of council, as indicated both by the number of member states attending and the level of their representation, was a matter of considerable significance," Rainford said.

"Above all, the meeting was a major mile post on account of the frank and open manner in which delegations faced the fundamental problems affecting intra-regional trade, their re-affirmation of their countries commitment to the basic principles and objectives of the common market, their resolve to formulate and implement measures to restore health to the intra-regional trade regime, and their agreement to meet again in the near future in extraordinary sessions to carry the process further of defining the technical details," he said.

The ministers are expected to meet again in Port of Spain next month.

BAHAMAS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO HAITI PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

FL302053 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 24 Apr 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Reginald L. Wood became the Bahamas' first ambassador to the Republic of Haiti on Tuesday.

He presented his credentials as non-resident ambassador to President for Life Jean-Claude Duvalier at a 10:30 am ceremony in the Presidential Palace, Port-au-Prince. After the presentation ceremony, Mr Wood had an audience with the President during which "matters of interest to the Bahamas and Haiti" were discussed.

GRENADA

GAIRY'S PARTY RAPS INTERIM ADMINISTRATION

FL272347 Bridgetown CANA in English 2205 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, April 27 (CANA) -- Sir Eric Gairy's Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) accused the interim administration today of seeking to prolong its time in office. In a strongly-worded statement, the party also criticised aspects of the current enumeration of voters and accused the regime of withholding people's properties confiscated by the deposed leftist government. "Generally speaking, the people are seeing the same tactics, tricks, and the characteristics...as their predecessor, the New Jewel Movement (NJM)....," the GULP statement said.

The party formed Grenada's last elected government before it was toppled by the left-wing NJM in a coup in 1979. Last October, a radical faction of the NJM seized power in a bloody military takeover. A U.S.-led invasion ousted the Army and a caretaker advisory council was appointed to run the country. Head of the council Nicholas Brathwaite has said it does not intent to stay in power beyond a year, expiring in November when elections are likely to be held.

The GULP said it discussed a number of matters of concern at an executive council meeting on Wednesday. "First and foremost among them is the unjust and unsatisfactory manner in that some of the enumerators are wilfully bypassing several homes and even large areas in the various constituencies," the statement charged. It added that the council "is evidently more concerned in extending the period for which they were appointed..."

The statement said all the while "Grenada is standing in a vacuum as both local and foreign investors make it quite clear that they would not be investing any appreciable sums of money...until such time as Grenada gets a duly elected constitutional government."

It poured scorn on what it said is the use by Brathwaite of the office of a former prime minister, and on the alleged use by the council of the terms "cabinet and cabinet reshuffle." "The people consider the whole thing to be absolutely ridiculous and laughable," the statement said.

"As a result of this unfortunate state of affairs in behavior and conduct, citizens once showing only concern have now become highly incensed. The committee's rate of approach over the election is the dragging of feet and the changing of their designation."

"Generally speaking, the people are seeing the same tactics, tricks, and characteristics in the committee as their predecessor...withholding people's properties...just the same as the last regime."

A party spokesman alleged that the party's headquarters "Progress House" is used as an office of the Ministry of Health without the payment of rent. "The GULP recognises the people's concern, which has grown into anger and which is likely to escalate into hatred. We are trying to avert this situation and a delegation of nine persons has been appointed and has requested a meeting with Mr Brathwaite and his committee," the statement concluded.

FORMER PREMIER BLAIZE ON GENERAL ELECTIONS

FL302157 Bridgetown CANA in English 1727 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, April 29 (CANA) -- Former Grenada Premier Herbert Blaize said that the composition of a "specially selected" group of candidates he intends to lead in the forthcoming general elections would be disclosed within the next month.

Blaize, who is the political leader of the 29-year-old Grenada National Party (GNP), said that most of the candidates would be selected from his party along with the two recently formed groups -- the National Democratic Party (NDP) of Economist George Brizan and the Grenada Democratic Movement (GDM) of Dr Francis Alexis.

Blaize told CANA that the three parties involved in this initiative had not excluded the possibility of including a few other people as candidates to fight the election as "a team for national togetherness."

"We are very flexible on this because we think that we ought to provide the country with some form of unification that they can stand confidently behind," he said. The veteran politician said that discussions among the three parties had made progress and it was hoped that an announcement would soon be made as to the formation of the team.

He also stressed that the team is not an alliance or merger of the three "moderate parties" but could probably be called "a coalition of interests to represent the national aspirations of the country." The interim government, set up here in the aftermath of the October military coup and the subsequent U.S.-led invasion, has promised elections before the end of the year to return Grenada to constitutional government. Elections were last held here in 1976.

GUADELOUPE

OFFICIALS TAKE MEASURES FOLLOWING BOMBINGS

FL271744 Bridgetown CANA in English 1708 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Basse Terre, Guadeloupe, April 27 (CANA) -- Guadeloupe's prefect Maurice Saburin has met with police and security officials to plan deployment of more patrols here following at least 14 bomb explosions throughout this French overseas department yesterday.

Nobody was reported hurt from the blasts at government offices and private businesses.

The general council and the Party of Guadeloupe (LPG) have condemned the bomb attacks. The LPG said persons who wanted to destroy the island's peace and stability would meet disapproval by the entire populace, who were more interested in improving living conditions and building a better future for their children.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the blasts.

The Caribbean Revolutionary Alliance (ARC) has been carrying out an intermittent bombing campaign in support of its demands for independence from France. In February last year, five people were injured in a bomb explosion on Guadeloupe for which ARC claimed responsibility.

GREENIDGE LEAVES FOR FIJI FOR EEC-ACP TALKS

FL302124 Bridgetown CANA in English 1427 GMT 30 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 30 (CANA) -- Guyana's Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Carl Greenidge has left for Fiji for this week's negotiations between the European Economic Community (EEC) and the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group (ACP) on a successor arrangement to Lome Two, the trade and aid pact between the two groupings. Greenidge is the Caribbean's ministerial spokesman for the areas of trade and customs co-operation and rules of origin within the negotiations, a government source said.

The 34th session of the ACP Council of Ministers opens today and will be followed May 2-5 by the third joint ACP-EEC ministerial negotiations. The talks are being conducted at three levels by the president of the joint ACP-EEC council, the ministerial committees and the committee of ambassadors. The current president of the ACP council is Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs in Jamaica Hugh Shearer, who holds office until the end of July this year. He will lead the negotiations at the ACP-EEC council meeting. At the ministerial level, the Caribbean has spokesmen for the areas of trade and customs cooperation and rules of origin; Greenidge is responsible for trade, while Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry of Barbados Bernard St John is responsible for customs and rules of origin. Ambassador Oliver Jackman of Barbados is the ACP ambassadorial spokesman for industrial development, fisheries, tourism, and transfers of technology.

NATION SAID ON IRREVERSIBLE SOCIALIST COURSE

FL281610 Bridgetown CANA in English 1547 GMT 28 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 28 (CANA) -- The NEW NATION, weekly organ of the ruling Peoples National Congress (PNC), says "Guyana is irreversibly on a course of socialist construction against the wishes of the United States which sees any socialist state as a threat to the established imperialist system propagated by the Western powers." It said Guyana, "with its traditional Western economic relationships, finds itself the victim of various acts of under socialism." [sentence as received]

According to the NEW NATION, there has been the vetoing of loans by the United States and the subsequent granting of other loans under conditions harsher than the normal, and there have been cases of "this nation being asked to change course before becoming eligible for aid from some of its traditional estern aid donors." The paper said Guyana has also been refused loans because it has so far refused to accept conditions proposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). But it noted that China, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic (GDR), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and Czechoslovakia were interested in a number of the country's resources including bauxite, timber, manganese, and in the local fruit carambola. "They are prepared to accept what we have and (are) prepared to share what they have with us," the weekly organ said.

BRIEFS

SHORTFALL IN SUGAR PRODUCTION -- Georgetown, Guyana, April 29 (CANA) -- After 14 weeks of reaping Guyana has produced 84,765 (long) tons of sugar from its first crop for 1984 -- a 16 per cent shortfall on projections, the state-owned industry has announced. The Guyana Sugar Corporation said two of the 10 sugar factories had ended their grinding operations and begun their maintenance programme. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1449 GMT 30 Apr 84 FL]

PARAGUAY

OPPOSITION LEADER NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER COUNTRY

PY301500 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 Apr 84 p 10

[From the "Between the Lines" column]

[Text] Political leader Domingo Laino was not allowed to enter the country. He tried to enter the country yesterday aboard a commercial flight, but local officials did not allow him to do so. Laino was asked to leave the country in 1982, and he is now residing in Argentina. The Interior Ministry has justified the decision to stop Laino from entering the country by stating that he is involved in subversive activities. It has also been said that Laino is constantly trying to create disorder and to undermine the peace of the nation.

Stroessner Accused by Laino

PY301453 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2020 GMT 29 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (DYN) -- Domingo Laino, the Paraguayan leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], who the Paraguayan regime did not allow to return to his country today, has charged that President Alfredo Stroessner has tolerated drug trafficking, since "he is one of those responsible for allowing the introduction of heroin worth $5 million into the American market."

This morning, Laino boarded the Aerolineas Argentinas flight to Asuncion, but since Paraguayan officials did not allow him to get off the plane, he had to return to Argentina. Minutes before he boarded the plane at Ezeiza International Airport, Laino said it was "very difficult" to predict whether the Paraguayan Government would allow him to enter the country, since "it is well known that my country is governed by a de facto regime that does not respect the Constitution or the laws."

BRIEFS

BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS DEFICIT -- After balance-of-payments surpluses from 1970 to 1981 on the strength of Itaipu investments and foreign capital inflows, the country's balance of payments slipped into a $71.5 million deficit in 1982, and an $85 million deficit in 1983. The only hope for a recovery in the balance of payments lies in the expansion of exports and a reduction of imports, although the trade balance has been unfavorable for the country since 1978. [Summary] [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 Apr 84 p 12 PY]

SURINAME

OPPOSITION GROUP TO VISIT, SEEK DIALOGUE

FL271730 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 27 Apr 84

[Text] Next week, a delegation from the Surinamese opposition movement, the AVV, is to visit Paramaribo. The aim is to see whether a dialogue is possible with the military rulers in Suriname. The opposition has proposed that there should be a conference outside Suriname to discuss a new constitution and a plan for democracy. This move means that the leader of the AVV, (Andre Harkmot), has abandoned the policy of a tough confrontation with the regime. As a result, other opposition groups have accused him of collaborating with the Bouterse regime and say that he has no right to represent the Surinamese opposition.